

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LIII.]

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BIRTH.

On the 28th March, at Westbourne Villa North, the wife of T. H. CHRISTIE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday, the 16th March, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. S. S. Walker, ROLF T. OLSON to PAULA MARYURITE, eldest daughter of the late Capt. KALHCKE.

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Singapore, on the 20th March, J. LEWIS JENKINS, of the Raffles Institution, aged 35 years.

On the 20th March, 1901, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, MARY ELIZABETH MURPHY, the beloved wife of P. V. MURPHY, aged 37 years.

On the 23rd March, 1901, at Shanghai, Captain GEORGE C. GRAHAM, of the Shanghai Tug-Boat Co., Limited, aged 46 years.

At the General Hospital, Singapore, on the 24th March, Captain J. DELMAGE.

On the 27th March, 1901, at 11, Tiendong Road, Shanghai, HENRY C. MORRISON, of Messrs. Boyd & Co., Limited, aged 21 years.

At 25, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 27th March, 1901, ANNABELLA SLESSAR, widow of the late Capt. Joseph SLESSAR, Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., aged 43 years.

On the 29th March, 1901, at 99, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, the wife of J. R. HARDING, Engineer-in-Chief, I. M. Customs Service, of a daughter.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 4th March arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinzess Irene*, on the 3rd April (30 days); and the American mail of the 7th March arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, on the 4th April (23 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Particulars of a big shipping deal, whereby the Hamburg-American line has added considerably to its resources, will be found on p. 285.

A Peking telegram to the *Kölnische Zeitung* says that China has agreed to the proposal of the Powers to make Kulangsu Island, Amoy, an international settlement.

According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette*, fresh disturbances have broken out at Changtu-fu, Manchuria, and the Russian military ports along the railway have been strengthened, while fresh troops have been requested.

Lord Lansdowne stated in the House of Lords at the end of last week that by the second clause of the Anglo-German Agreement Great Britain and Germany undertook to maintain the integrity of China, and that the British Government considered the clause applied to the whole Empire of China, including Manchuria.

The *Universal Gazette* mentions a report from Peking that the Ministers of the various Powers have lately paid considerable respect and regard to a certain Prince now in the capital (Prince Chun), and it is further stated that there is an intention to appoint him Prince Regent of the Empire, if the Emperor delays any longer his return to Peking.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says:—It is now definitely arranged by the Foreign Office that Mr. Consul F. S. A. Bourne will be relieved altogether of his Consular functions, and will devote himself exclusively to the duties of Assistant-Judge of the Supreme Court, retaining his present residence. Mr. Pitzipios, who is now at home on leave, has been recommended for the post of Land Officer, and he will probably assume the duties on his return to China.

A writer in *Le Courrier d'Haiphong* expresses some uneasiness over the importation of arms from Europe into Siam. A consignment, it appears, was recently sent secretly through Singapore, addressed to the German Minister at Bangkok, Herr von Saldern. The reason of this was that the importation of arms into the Far East is forbidden by Germany and the other Powers. The consignment referred to consisted of Mannlicher carbines from Austria, which were sent via Hamburg to a German house in Bangkok. They were addressed to the German Minister to insure their not going to China, the Minister being responsible that they are not re-exported.

The Chinese patriots have shown no lack of energy in their protests against the Manchurian Convention. On the night of the 24th ult. the Patriotic Committee at Shanghai sent the following telegraphic appeal for publication in the *London Times*:—"The Editor, *London Times*, Russian Convention against wishes of Chinese nation. Viceroy provinces forming League oppose signing. We appeal support generous British people. Chinese Patriots' League." The *N.-C. Daily News* mentions, as a proof of the earnestness of some of the high officials of this country in protesting against the Russian Convention about Manchuria, that it appears that H.E. Chang Chi-tung alone protested eight times to the Court at Hsian, whilst other Viceroy and Governors sent at least two each.

Our London correspondent telegraphed on the 2nd inst. that Dr. Morrison had reported to the *Times* that the Imperial Court has informed Li Hung-chang that the Manchurian Convention will not be signed by China. The decision is due to the opposition of the Yangtze Viceroy. Laffan's telegrams say that Japan's strong attitude relieved the situation.

The *Asahi* says in connection with the dismissal by the Korean Government of Mr. McLeavy Brown that the Government has been pressing Mr. McLeavy Brown to leave his official residence, but that gentleman refused to comply with the request. The Korean Government then notified him of his dismissal. Mr. McLeavy Brown and the British Minister to Seoul, continues the *Asahi*, are indignant, and it is feared that the affair will cause trouble between the British and the Korean Governments.

A *Nichi Nichi* telegram from Tientsin on the 18th ult. says:—The French, British, Americans and Italians here suspect that there is something at the back of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee's trip to Kiaochau. The present condition of affairs in North China is not so satisfactory that the Supreme Commander of the Allies can go anywhere on a pleasure trip, and that is what his trip to Kiaochau is supposed to be. There is a suspicion abroad that the Germans are preparing to enter into a special understanding with China regarding Shantung, on the same principle as the Russians are following in Manchuria. If this supposition be correct there is no hope of any of the allied troops being withdrawn from North China.

Rumours were circulating in the colony on Monday that Aguinaldo, the Filipino insurrectionist leader, had at last been captured. Enquiry at the United States Consulate elicited the information that, although news of the capture had been received from two distinct sources, no official confirmation of the rumour was to hand. So frequent have been such reports that not much credence was given to the story. However, we were able to publish on Wednesday morning a telegram from our London correspondent stating that "General Funston, the capturer of Aguinaldo, has been appointed a Brigadier-General in the United States regular army." On Thursday night we received full confirmation from Government House, as may be seen from the statement on another page.

The *Universal Gazette* states that Russia has allowed China to effect a compromise, so that the treaty was not signed on 25th March as originally announced in its columns. Although the Viceroy and Governors of all the provinces are opposing it with all their might, yet a certain minister is still more urgent that the thing must be done. Chang Chi-tung has wired to ascertain whether the telegrams of protest from Shanghai really emanated from the public meeting. He desires official assurance that it is so. A Nanking friend tells the same paper that two changes have been made in the first treaty, viz. the 5th clause formerly read: "Chinese officials who fail in their duty will be liable to cashiering at the instance of Russia." "Cashiering" is changed to "removal to another post." The 8th clause originally read: "The mines and railways in Manchuria, Mongolia New Dominion and Kashgaria shall be entirely in Russian control." This is altered by the omission of the words "New Dominion and Kashgaria."

CHINA'S CAPACITY FOR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

(Daily Press, 4th April.)

It has perhaps been too quickly assumed that Asiatics are incapable of rising to the conception of Representative Government, and that no materials exist among them on which a parliament could be founded. The only institution of this nature, the Diet in Japan, it is true, has hardly proved a success, yet when contrasted with the many efforts in Europe from time to time to familiarise the various peoples with the intrinsic perfection of a limited monarchy tempered by representative institutions, it cannot be said to have proved a failure. There are, in fact in Europe, many states provided with assemblies of the most liberal kind, where the principles of representative Government have by no means become so practically assimilated as in the Island Empire of Japan. We may on this connection point more especially to the dual, or rather multi-form, Empire of Austria, where amid every circumstance making for success, and under the presidency of a sovereign who has thrown himself heart and soul into the constitutional movement, the various elements of which the Empire consists have refused to coalesce even in the most primitive details. Austria is not alone in the inability of certain of its constituents to assimilate the true principle underlying all constitutional Government, namely that each constituent must in turn understand that it does not stand alone, but has to yield and adapt itself to its neighbours in order that the whole may present an united front. Unfortunately in Ireland the same misunderstanding of the fundamentals exists. That there are elements leading up to an incipient understanding of these principles appears from time to time even in so apparently unpromising a field as China. In certain directions the system of co-operation has in China been well understood, and nowhere has the organisation of the guilds been carried to greater perfection or exercised more influence. Although this influence has too frequently been on the side of repression, and often of alliance with the government when it sought to gain some end more than usually oppressive to the nation at large, at times the guilds have come between the administration and the people at large, and prevented the commission of some great political crime. This is ordinarily the attitude of the guild when some local magistrate attempts to go beyond the ordinary limits; when the organisation of the guild and its position as the exponent of public opinion generally prevails to prevent the intended act of oppression coming off. In general politics the guilds from their restricted horizons have never attempted to interfere with the government and a sort of a tacit truce seems to have existed, that in consideration of their remaining unmolested they should steer clear of any interference in the higher spheres of legislation.

Like everything else in China, the growth of the guilds has been in a measure stunted. With a capacity for expansion, and of playing a useful part in the administration they have remained an insignificant element; and the probable reason is the absence in China of any aristocratic body which might have formed the nucleus of a rallying ground where the first strivings of the nation would find an asylum. It was the fact that HENRY III. had been seeking to extend the regal power at the cost of the nobles as well as the commonalty that led to the great Earl Simon making his appeal to the Commons, and

summoning the first Parliament deserving the name. What distinguished it from its predecessors was that for the first time he appealed to the towns. The towns in those days were ruled by their great guilds through whose means alone could any man gain admission to the franchise of the borough. The guilds of England were in many respects similar to those of China. Like those of China there was a sort of enregistered compact that in return for certain trading and internal privileges they were to give their support to the king's government, assist him in levying his taxes, and not interfere with his judgments. When however summoned to Parliament they found themselves abetted by the powerful faction of the nobles, and had for the first time leisure to look round them, they discovered that both from numbers and from wealth, they held in their own hands the key of the position. The Commons of England never afterwards forgot the lesson, and the House of Commons soon found that in the possession of the purse-strings they could effectually control both noble and King.

Now one or two little incidents seem to show that a glimpse of something of the sort has commenced to dawn on China. Curiously in China it was not the noble nor the bureaucracy that made the first appeal to the people. China has never suffered, as did England, from the encroachments of the Crown. Her sufferings have arisen from a more dangerous, because more insidious power, that of an all-pervading and irresponsible bureaucracy. If the Crown in HENRY III.'s time in England had sought to oppress the nobility, the converse has happened in China, where the bureaucracy have sought to extinguish the Crown, and finding its occupant ill disposed to yield his prerogative have not scrupled to call to their assistance all the powers of anarchy and even rebellion. Hence the Emperor and the people have found a common interest. The first symptom of this common feeling came from the small band of "reformers" whom the Emperor summoned round him, and his determination to throw himself on his people was in many respects alike in its inception to Earl Simon's determination to make his appeal to the Commons of England. Without knowing enough of the constitutional history of England to understand precedent and its warning, instinct has here pointed out to the Chinese people where their best interests were concerned, and an appeal to the Emperor has been the natural result. The Emperor led the way, and had he been unhampered would by this time have found his people well on the road to a peaceful revolution. Unfortunately England, who from her own experience should have known better, actually was foremost in the suppression of the new movement; and backed up with her influence the Palace intrigue, which but for the part taken by Japan would have ended in the murder of the Emperor, and the immediate return of the Empire to barbarism. But the people of China have not forgotten their Emperor, and their instinct has had a curious exposition in a little incident that occurred on the 15th ult. at Shanghai. The modified amount of personal protection there afforded by the civic institutions of the place has led to the prevalence of generally wider views on the part of the Chinese residents, who feel secure in uttering their political sentiments in a manner unknown elsewhere, even here in Hongkong. It is characteristic of the nation that although the want is felt of a general reform, this feeling is unaccompanied by any feeling of disaffection. No more loyal subjects of the

Empire exist than these residents in the "Foreign Settlement," who, secured in the protection of their own laws, and in the absence of any desire to withdraw them from their natural allegiance, form the backbone of the Shanghai Settlements. Both find an appreciative seconder in Lu KUNG-YI, the Viceroy of the Province, to whose sound commonsense the little that has been done to bring the reactionary party in China to a sense of its blunders is due. These residents then have taken the courageous course of openly calling a meeting of their fellow residents to discuss the position of the Empire; and it is instructive and hopeful to note the result. The meeting was conducted on the most orderly lines, a chairman appointed, and the utmost order prevailed. The occasion of the meeting was to protest against the fatal measures being taken by the more reactionary party to hand over to a foreign Power the territory of Manchuria. The disastrous results of the policy of that party which had already lost to China Port Arthur, Weihaiwei, Kiaochau, and other portions of their native land were pointed out, and the necessary effect of the proposed surrender in leading to the partition of the entire Empire were made the ground of dutiful expostulation to the Emperor, his Court, and the Viceroys of the Great Provinces.

That such a meeting should be called is a sufficient sign of the time, but that it should be addressed by its Chairman in terms showing a wide knowledge of the subject at issue, which would have come with credit from the mouth of an European statesman of the first order, and that the protest should have been unaccompanied by any expression of disloyalty or a desire to embarrass, is indicative that there does exist at bottom of the Chinese polity a very general ability for rule, and an indication that the main want of the nation is now to be left to work out untrammelled its own transformation. There is little doubt that if once the general body of the Empire could be approached its first aim would be to rid itself of the incubus of its corrupt bureaucracy; and if the efforts of the foreign Powers could be turned towards this end rather than in propping up the evil influences of Hsianfu, the return of China within the limits of civilisation would be a work to be as easily accomplished as the rebirth of Japan.

BRITAIN, GERMANY, AND RUSSIA.

(Daily Press, 30th March.)

The German Emperor last January, on receipt of the news that his grandmother, Queen VICTORIA, was dangerously ill, hurried over to England, and was present at her death and funeral. There had always been an undercurrent of admiration amongst Englishmen for the Kaiser, who with all his faults was possessed of those two qualities most dear to Englishmen, personal pluck and independence of character; and when to this was joined the feeling of a common grief, all the foundation required to induce a feeling of personal friendship was laid. The personal affection of the rulers of the two countries had led to more intimate family relations, and as almost the only method of publicly showing the strictly private nature of these ties each monarch had conferred on the other those honorary distinctions which still are held to be within the personal gift of the head of the State. Following up the custom the King conferred on the Emperor the courtesy rank of Field Marshal, and the personal courtesy was seconded by the whole

people, and graciously accepted as it was intended.

This was the feeling, not only in England and Germany but it may be said universally—with but one exception. The Emperor of Russia, as the German Emperor, holds an honourable commission in the British army, being Colonel in Chief of the Scots Greys. The Tsar is like the Kaiser, closely connected with the Great Queen, having married her granddaughter, who as the daughter of the late Princess ALICE was doubly dear to her late Majesty. In spite of these common amenities, it is from Russia, and from Russia alone, that the first discordant note has been sounded. Personally the people of England have always taken a personal interest in the Tsar; they remembered the noble work done by his father in elevating the millions of his Empire, and this hereditary hold on their affections was intensified by his marriage with the Princess ALICE of Hesse, daughter of their own beloved Princess ALICE, who more than any other of their Sovereign's children had won the personal affection of her people. For the sake of these memories the people of England were willing to put into the background past differences, and even to assist Russia in her advances. Without *arrière pensée* England joined Russia in the delimitation of the Afghan boundary, and found her efforts thwarted by Russia's discreditable affair to advance her lines at Panjdeh. Refraining from proceeding to extremities, she was rewarded by the occupation of Port Arthur; to which, still in the face of promises evidently never intended to be kept, England, in hope of coming eventually into more friendly relations, acceded. On the commencement of the recent troubles in China no continental country was so profuse in her expressions of disinterestedness as Russia; yet all the while she was secretly plotting with the arch-traitor LI HUNG-CHANG the acquisition for herself of Manchuria as her price of interference to uphold the Dowager Tz'u-hi and her party. Now that affairs are coming to a head she is still carrying on the old misleading game, and under the cover of strange phrases invented for the occasion seeking to cover her advances, under the misuse of words to which she can attach any meaning she sees fit when the time comes for further action. The exception to which we have alluded above is characteristic. Though in no country in the world the Press is kept in such close tutelage as Russia, no country is more ready when a *coup* is to be tried than Russia to use the Press as a *ballon d'essai*. While the other continental nations have accepted as the most natural return in the world the Kaiser's appointment as Field Marshal in the British army, the Russian Press affects to see in it a threat of an Anglo-German offensive and defensive alliance against herself. When the Queen, to show her good feeling towards the husband of her dear granddaughter, made the Tsar Colonel of her crack regiment of Scots Greys, no one voice was heard from Germany protesting against the new alliance. Yet, comparing the history of the two countries, an alliance between England and Russia, the most encroaching of nations, was far more menacing to Germany than any alliance between England and Germany, even were such a thing on the cards, could possibly prove to the other. The policy of Germany towards Russia always, equally with that of England, has been one of avoiding offence, a policy which Russia has not always reciprocated. As a fact neither of the two nations has ever had any desire to encroach on Russia, and both have carried this feeling sometimes

so far as to almost approach to subserviency. Russia has met this feeling by encroachments which have pressed closely on each in turn. The only difference has been that her encroachments on England have been the more direct. None the less both commercially and politically she has all the while been secretly, but steadily, trying to undermine the influence of her good neighbour Germany. At the commencement of the recent troubles in China she was even more explicit in her vows to Germany that she sought no personal aggrandisement, but was interfering in the cause of civilisation. As soon as she had engaged both these Powers in a policy of self-denial, her own conduct began to tend in a very different direction. In 1860, under cover of helping China to resist the demands of the Allies, she had procured the cession of the coast of Manchuria; but unfortunately Russia is afflicted with one of those unruly appetites that increase with indulgence. The morsel proved so sweet that she has since been ambitious of renewing the game, and the opportunity offering in the unblushing venality of the Chinese minister, she has not scrupled to take advantage of it to the uttermost. Russia is in that position in her growth that she has not learnt the necessity of caution. As, however, she has now come in contact with a higher civilisation than her own, and sooner or later must be compelled to yield to its restraints, it is perhaps as well that the inevitable should come now. At all events she has so far truly gauged the position as to recognise that England and Germany must take cognizance of her capacity for encroachment. Conscience ever gives unconsciously a clue to intentions; and as Russia would act herself, she conceives that others must act likewise. In the dread that England and Germany are contemplating an attack on her, we see merely a reflex of her own condition of mind towards those two Powers, which are perfectly friendly so long as Russia herself does not begin the trouble. This is the lesson to be learnt from the inspired apprehensions of the Russian Press.

JAPAN AND THE FAR EASTERN QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 2nd April.)

In the *Times* of the 1st March appears a letter from that journal's special correspondent at Tokyo, which sets forth with admirable clearness Japanese interests on the Far Eastern question, and is well worth reading as a corrective against ideas of Japanese policy which may be derived from the writing of certain foreign critics or from some of the Japanese vernacular papers. This letter should do much toward dissipating any impression that the Jingoism in the Island Empire are likely to precipitate a crisis in the Far East. The correspondent recalls the foundation in 1898 of the *Domei* or National Union, led by Prince KONOYE, formerly and now again President of the House of Peers, to promote a strong national policy. Such a body was likely enough, if it grew in strength, to bring about trouble with Russia. But official pressure was brought to bear, and resulted in the Union's propaganda being discountenanced. Marquis ITO, says the *Times* correspondent, is even less likely than his predecessor to allow his hands to be forced prematurely by popular agitation. Throughout the events of last year and, it may be added, still more during the opening months of the present year, Japan's attitude has been admirable. Popular scares and agitations have occurred, but the firmness of the Government has not been

shaken, a fact which speaks well for the way in which the country has settled down under its still newly imported system of rule. Did Japan suffer the misfortune of being led by a warlike Prime Minister, it is difficult to see how a precipitation of events could have been avoided over the Masampo affair and subsequent Russian intrigues with Corea. Marquis ITO, however, is a man of sufficient strength to control those elements in his country which threaten the peace of the East, and thanks greatly to him the Russo-Japanese question looks less acute now than it did several months ago. It is well to avoid any false feeling of security, but still more must be neglected the reports of the panic-mongers who would make out that a collision between Japan and Russia might occur at any moment over Corea. Japan will not sacrifice her interests in Corea, but her Government does not propose to look after these interests by a policy of bluster, as suggested by her indiscriminating critics.

An interesting point which is brought out by the writer of whose letter we have been speaking is the way in which the South African War has affected Japan. The political issues have only so far interested her as they tend to weaken British influence and British policy in the Far East. But the military progress of the struggle has been keenly followed, and the prolonged resistance of the Boers has convinced the Japanese that they have nothing to fear from foreign invasion. A Japanese officer speaking to the *Times* correspondent said:—"Imagine what would be the position of an invading army, even if we no longer had a fleet in being, in a country scarcely less broken and difficult than South Africa, in the midst of an absolutely homogeneous and bitterly hostile population of forty millions, whose fighting force would be reckoned not in tens, but in hundreds of thousands, as early as active, as well trained to the use of modern weapons and inspired by a patriotism at least as fierce as the Boers." This remark is at least interesting as showing in what spirit the course of the War has been followed in Japan. There is no doubt also that the entanglement of Great Britain in South Africa has been regretted, for Japan is impressed with the idea that, next to herself, Britain has the greatest interest in the preservation of peace in the Far East, and that, had her hands been free in the present crisis, she would have taken a strong lead. With regard to the Anglo-German agreement, Japan gave her unreserved adhesion at once to its terms. But she is not so confident, states the writer in the *Times*, as to the ability and determination of the signatories to carry out their good intentions. Lord LANS-LOWNE's statement in the House of Lords last week that the British Government considered that the clause about maintaining the integrity of China applied to the whole Empire, including Manchuria, should be reassuring. But how is it to be reconciled with Count von BULOW's statement in the Reichstag on the 15th ult., that the Anglo-German Agreement did not refer to Manchuria? Such a contradiction of views is not likely to inspire confidence. Japan may well continue to feel anxious. Such anxiety will be fully shared by all Britons whose interests lie out in the Far East.

We understand that in addition to the *s.s. Sirius* the *Norddeutscher Lloyd* is negotiating for the purchase of other local steamers to add to their East Asiatic run. The vessel named has just been bought from the *Urania* Steam Navigation Company, and will now take the new name of *Kohsichang*.

THE CAPTURE OF AGUINALDO.

(Daily Press, 3rd April.)

The news sent by our London correspondent, to the effect that "General FUNSTON, the capturer of AGUINALDO," has been rewarded with a Brigadier-Generalship in the United States regular army, having previously been a General in the Volunteer force, appears to be authentic confirmation of the rumour, to which we alluded yesterday as current in Hongkong, that the Filipino leader had fallen into American hands. So frequent has been the report of AGUINALDO's capture that such a story could not be received as true until officially confirmed, and on Monday the United States representative had no information to impart on the subject, nor up to yesterday night had he any direct confirmation of the news. Nevertheless our telegram seems to put the matter beyond reasonable doubt.

That the capture of AGUINALDO will have a great effect on the state of the Philippines can hardly be doubted. While "*el Presidente*," as he was so long called, remained at liberty, the Filipinos who refused to accept American rule had always a strong head to whom to look up. None of their other leaders have so far shown a tithe of the ability of this remarkable man. General TRIAS, whose recent defection has very probably contributed to AGUINALDO's capture, has been much praised by the Americans since he gave up the struggle against them, but he was not appreciated by them as an enemy in any such degree as was AGUINALDO. That the war or insurrection will now collapse at once, is perhaps unlikely. The Filipino Junta, of which we have heard so much, will probably have some announcement to make on this point. But it cannot be doubted that the capture of AGUINALDO is a very heavy blow to the Filipino cause. In the interests of peace in the Islands, and because it was inevitable that he must one day fall into his enemies' power, a feeling of relief must be experienced by all but the extremist partisans of AGUINALDO and his Filipino followers. There should be no fear that the captured leader will be ungenerously treated by the Americans, who have throughout behaved with if anything an excessive generosity to the chiefs who have been captured by them. No change of policy in the case of AGUINALDO is to be anticipated. Such a change would be very unpopular in the United States, would alienate those who sympathise with the American attempts to pacify the Philippines, and furnish the Filipino cause with an unnecessary martyr. On every ground, we believe, AGUINALDO will secure the treatment granted by civilised conquerors to a brave enemy who can resist no more.

THE KOWLOON WATER SUPPLY.

(Daily Press, 1st April.)

Kowloon is once more waterless for the greater part of the day. In the *Government Gazette* of Saturday, the 30th ult., there appeared a notification to the effect that, owing to the scarcity of water, the supply in the public mains in Kowloon Peninsula will be turned on from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. only, until further notice. That is to say, for seven hours in the day it will be possible for Kowloon residents to obtain water; for the rest they must depend on what they have drawn during these hours. There is nothing new in this experience for Kowloon. It is an annual occurrence, with the only variations that in some years the supply is cut off earlier than in others and that the hours of

supply are not always the same. But the unpleasantness is invariably there, and the scarcity of water generally begins when the Colony is threatened with an epidemic. The ever-present possibility of a combined water-famine and outbreak of serious illness detracts most seriously from the eligibility of Kowloon as a residential quarter for Europeans, and it is therefore urgent for the authorities to make every effort to render the water supply sufficient to meet the demands on it. Shortsightedness in the past and the general dilatoriness which marks so many Government undertakings have produced a state of affairs discreditable to Hongkong, to put an end to which every reasonable endeavour must be made. In official reports Kowloon is promised 500,000 gallons of water a day in 1904-5. Recently Mr. LAWRENCE GIBBS estimated 413,000 gallons a day to be the quantity at present necessary, though the temporary works now in progress will only bring the minimum dry weather allowance up to 300,000 gallons, which plainly is little enough, even if it compares favourably with the actual supply of to-day. It is no doubt useless to attempt to hasten the new works, and Kowloon must therefore exist as best it can, with occasional water-famines. We do, however, hope that the authorities, in view of the rapid growth of Kowloon, will consider well the advisability of increasing the supply which is to be available in 1904-5. If in the opinion of an expert 413,000 gallons a day is necessary now, it is improbable that 500,000 gallons will suffice even in three or four years' time, and they certainly will not in the future, unless something occurs to check the expansion of this Colony on the mainland. The present is the time at which to atone for the shortsightedness of the past, where possible, and every fresh scarcity of water, such as that now existing, emphasises this fact.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS]

SHANGHAI, 29th March, 7.40 p.m.

The Reformers here have been officially assured that all reports of the signature by China of the Manchurian Convention are unfounded.

A Nanking despatch expects that Li Hung-chang will be appointed Foreign Minister in place of the old Tsung-li Yamen, and that Liu Kung-yi will be made Viceroy of Chihli, and Lu Lien-yuan, Acting Governor of Chekiang, the Viceroy of the Liangkiang.

SHANGHAI, 31st March, 7.53 p.m.

A despatch from a reliable source at Hsianfu announces the early issue of an Imperial Decree stating that the Emperor firmly refuses to ratify the Manchurian Convention.

A Tokyo despatch reports that Russia has assured Japan that the Convention is harmless to China and immaterial to Japan.

The Church Missionary Society's claims in Chekiang Province have been settled in a favourable manner.

SHANGHAI, 2nd April, 8 p.m.

On the invitation of Yu Chuan-lin, Tung Fuhsiang has secretly visited Hsianfu to advise the Empress Dowager to avoid Peking.

The Empress begged for Tung's assistance in event of further troubles, and authorised him to maintain a large force of militia at Ninghsia.

THE OUTBREAK IN VICTORIA GAOL.

The three long-sentence prisoners who mutinied in Victoria Gaol last week and murderously attacked Mr. R. H. Craig, assistant superintendent, and Mr. Pierpoint, chief warder, wounding them with knives, the former severely, were charged on the 2nd inst. before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy with attempted murder. Captain Superintendent May prosecuted. Mr. Craig, who attended to give evidence, had his head bandaged.

The three convicts, handcuffed securely together, were conducted into court by an armed constable, and placed in the dock, at each end of which a guard was set.

His Worship, on taking his seat, pointed out to Mr. May that it was opposed to principle to have prisoners manacled in the dock. The handcuffs were accordingly taken off, but the prisoners were secured by their queues. They admitted the crime when the charge had been read over.

Robert Henry Craig, assistant superintendent of Victoria Gaol, said—At 9.50 a.m. on the 27th ult., I was inspecting the lower yard, accompanied by the chief warder. I am well acquainted with the three defendants; the first of whom has been in goal for about nine months, and is under sentence of ten years' hard labour for armed robbery and piracy. The second, who was sentenced to fourteen years' hard labour for armed robbery in a dwelling-house, when a murder was committed, has been in gaol for about six years, and the third has completed one year of a three-years' sentence for forgery. The first defendant, after doing six months' separate confinement, was put to No. 2 labour—the usual labour for such convicts. On coming off "separate," he received full labour diet. On the 27th ult. the first defendant was on No. 2 labour and in receipt of full diet. The second defendant was employed in the wash-house from August last year up to the 21st February, on which day he was reported for idling and put to No. 2 labour—shot and oakum. The wash-house also counts as No. 2 labour, so that, though put to different work, the prisoner did not lose anything in diet. On 18th January the third defendant, at his own request, was transferred from shoemaking to No. 2 labour. Shoemaking is industrial No. 2 labour, and nothing therefore was lost in diet. On the 27th ult. the three prisoners were working together in the same party at the same labour. At ten minutes to ten they were picking oakum in the lower yard, at the south side of the washshed, which has no door, but is fitted with open arches leading into it from three sides—east, south, and west. After visiting the yard, and when in the act of entering the washshed by the east end, I felt a blow on the back of my head. I immediately turned round and found myself confronted by the first and second prisoners, both with knives in their hands. They struck at me again, and I received a blow with a knife on the head and a stab on each shoulder. While defending myself, I noticed the third defendant enter the shed from the south side. The attack took place in the archway of the shed. At almost the same moment the three defendants were overpowered and the knives taken from them. When I was entering the shed the chief warder was just behind me, and he seized the second defendant just after I was struck, and whilst I was defending myself. I did not see Mr. Pierpoint struck, because the whole affair was but momentary. Other officers then came and overpowered the prisoners, who did their best to get at me with their knives. This is the coat I was wearing at the time (coat produced). I saw the three prisoners disarmed, and the weapons produced are those that were taken from them. In my coat there are altogether four cuts, and three correspond with the plane iron. The two knives have not been used in the Gaol as long as I have been connected with it. On that morning, immediately after this occurrence, all the implements used in the workshops and cookhouses were checked from entries, but none found missing. All the articles used in the Gaol are checked three times a day—at the time of issue, when taken up for the mid-day meal, and again at night.

when not in use they are under lock and key. The weapons must therefore have been introduced into the Gaol from outside.

Mr. May—As a matter of fact, we know they were so introduced, but I don't propose to put it in evidence.

Continuing, Mr. Craig said—About two-and-a-half years ago the second defendant assaulted me with a carrying-pole, and on that occasion would have killed me if he could.

This concluded the examination of the witness, and the prisoners were asked if they wished to put any questions.

First defendant—Did you not reduce my regulation diet by four ounces?

Witness—No; I have no power to do that, your Worship. He received the regulation diet.

First defendant—Why did we not receive pork on Sunday evenings, as the regulations allow?

Witness—The regulations do not permit the serving of pork on Sunday evening until a prisoner has completed three years of his sentence.

First defendant—Formerly we received four-and-a-half yards of cloth for our clothes, now we only get three-and-a-half; how is that?

Witness—A prisoner's clothes are cut to fit him.

The second and third defendants asked similar questions. All three, by their tone and bearing, appeared to be animated by deep hatred of the witness.

An Indian assistant, warder, whose left wrist was bound up where it had been cut during the struggle, gave evidence of the attack and the rescue. He caught hold of the second defendant and knocked him down, but received a cut on the wrist from the prisoner's knife in the scuffle, and also had his coat and trousers cut.

The three defendants, when asked if they had any questions, said the witness was cut because he interfered to save Mr. Craig. The first defendant added that he was sorry the witness had been cut.

A guard in the Gaol, who helped to overpower the first defendant, followed with a similar statement, after which he was questioned.

Second defendant—Did you not cut me on the head with a sword?

Witness—No.

The hearing was then adjourned.

The hearing of evidence in this case was resumed on Wednesday.

Bishen Singh, assistant warder, said—At 9.50 a.m. on the morning of the 27th ult. I was in charge of the three defendants, among other prisoners. They were picking oakum. At that time the assistant superintendent and the chief warder were inspecting the lower yard, and I saw them come towards the south-side of the wash-house, where I and my prisoners were. The assistant superintendent was ahead somewhat, and as he came nearer the three defendants got up from their oakum-picking and ran at him, the first and second defendants attacking in rear and the third defendant in front. Mr. Craig was just entering the wash-house from the east side, and to get at him in front the third defendant had to run round to the south side. The three convicts attacked Mr. Craig with knives and the blade of a plane. I ran over and caught hold of the third defendant, who was armed with something resembling a chopper. Other guards had by this time come up, and one assisted me to take the weapon from the third defendant, who tried to strike me. I did not actually see this man strike Mr. Craig, but I saw the first and second defendants do so, stabbing him on the neck with their knives.

Dr. Thomson said—I am the doctor in charge of the Gaol. On the 27th ult. I made an examination of the various prison officials and prisoners wounded in the course of the attack on Mr. Craig. That official had two wounds at the back of the head, just under the crown, one 3½ in. and the other 2½ in. long. They joined at an acute angle, and formed one wound. The weapon had penetrated to the bone, and the hemorrhage was very severe; the scalp above the wound has been numbed through the severance of the nerves. There was also a wound on the front of the top of the head, somewhat to the left, and a stab wound on each shoulder.

After describing the wounds inflicted upon the others, Dr. Thomson went on to say that those to Mr. Craig were the most severe, and had the knife struck on the side or front of the neck instead of on the bone, Mr. Craig, in the absence of a doctor, would probably have bled to death. The wound to Hernam Singh, a warder, who received a deep stab on the neck, might also easily have been fatal.

On being asked if they had any questions, the first defendant smilingly said—"The doctor has told the truth."

A sergeant-interpreter at the Central Police Station proved the statements made by the three defendants on their being charged.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

The defendants received the usual caution and were asked if they wished to make a statement. The first said he had none to make, but the second and third replied that they would say anything they had to say at the Supreme Court.

All three gave the names of numerous fellow-convicts whom they desire to call as witnesses at the Supreme Court.

His Worship then committed them for trial.

THE HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE OF STEAMERS.

ANOTHER, BIG SHIPPING DEAL.

For some time past it has been hinted in shipping circles in the Northern Chinese ports that the trade between Shanghai and the Gulf of Pechili hitherto secured by the Jebson line of steamers would eventually fall into the hands of the Hamburg-American Packet Company, and the fact that two of the Jebson boats were under charter to the latter Company lent considerable colour to the rumour that the whole fleet would in turn change ownership, and become merged in the colossal business of the Hamburg concern. Such a change has now taken place, and information of a complete sale of the s.s. *Gouverneur Jaeschke* and the s.s. *Tsintau* reached us on the 2nd inst. together with a few details of the scheme by which another track will be added to the twenty-five different lines covered by the Hamburg-American fleet, and in conjunction with its Far Eastern system. The route which has been worked by the Jebson line, comprising the steamers *Gouverneur Jaeschke*, *Tsintau*, *Mathilde*, and *Knipsburg*, is from Shanghai round the Gulfs of Pechili and Liaotung, calling at Kioochan, Chefoo, Taku, and Shanhaikwan. That will now be extended to all the remaining ports north of the Yangtze, and will, when practicable, include Port Arthur, and Crea Bay. On enquiring at the local office of the Hamburg-American line on Tuesday a *Daily Press* representative was informed that the new line will connect with the German mail steamers at Shanghai, and thus be the means of linking it with all the steamship systems running to Europe and America. The *Gouverneur Jaeschke* will, our representative was informed, undergo a thorough refit, and will be cabins to meet the exigencies of the passenger traffic in Northern climates on the same style, and with equal abundance, as that furnished on the run between Hamburg and New York. The *Gouverneur Jaeschke* is a new vessel of 1,250 tons, and is at present at Shanghai. She was built at Kiel, and came out a short time ago, displaying on the passage a most satisfactory steam power. The *Tsintau*, our representative was further informed, will also be equipped, and provided with passenger accommodation on the same style as the Western Ocean fleet, or those now running of the "P" class. To take the place of the steamer *Mathilde* and the steamer *Knipsburg*, which are respectively of 678 and 646 tons register, two vessels are now on the stocks, and will be about finished when the present charter-party with the Jebson Company expires. On enquiry at the offices of the Jebson line of steamers the information as to the sale was confirmed.

Last week at Shanghai a new twin-screw steam tug *Lieutenant Conal*, launched from Farnham's Dock for the special transport service of the French Government, had a successful trial trip.

THE CAPTURE OF AGUINALDO.

By the courtesy of H.E. the Governor, we received on Wednesday night absolute confirmation of the news of Aguinaldo's capture. It appears that the local Government received the information two days ago from H.B.M. Consul in Manila that the Filipino leader was in American hands, and in fact in safe custody in Manila. There is therefore no further doubt about the news.

We have also been allowed to see an early copy of the *New American* of the 29th ult., which, in a graphic account of the capture of Aguinaldo by General Funston and his party, says the latter allowed himself and his outfit to be taken prisoner by native troops serving under the United States flag, who were, however, carefully disguised in insurgent uniform, according to General Funston's plan. They were then led to where Aguinaldo's bodyguard, consisting of fifty men armed with rifles, were drawn up to receive the supposed prisoners and reinforcements. At a signal the Macabebes troops, under the orders of General Funston, opened fire, and after a short resistance the insurrectionist leader's bodyguard fled, leaving two killed and eighteen wounded. A rush was then made for the house used by Aguinaldo as his headquarters, and the Filipino chief was captured, together with Colonel Villa, his chief of staff, and Santiago Barcelona, official treasurer. The exploits seem to have been a very smart piece of strategy. The immediate disposition of Aguinaldo, the *New American* adds, is uncertain.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE DINNER.

In the private dining-room of the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday night, the 30th ult., 37 members of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge at present in the Colony and its neighbourhood met, on the occasion of the Inter-University Boat-race, after the fashion set last year. It is hoped that the affair can be made an annual one, and the fact that thirteen more were present this year than last should encourage this hope. As was the case last year, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Victoria was Chairman, and Sir John W. Carrington, C.M.G., Vice-Chairman. After the dinner and the drinking of the King's health, the Chairman gave the toast of the evening, *Almae Matres*, which was received with great loyalty. Speeches by the Vice-Chairman and others followed, alternating with songs, which continued until the approach of midnight brought the affair to a close. The news of Oxford's victory did not arrive in time for the dinner. It may be noted that no less than eleven of the guests came from ships of His Majesty's fleet now in Harbour, and that there were twenty representatives of Cambridge to seventeen of Oxford. The full list of guests is as follows:—

Rt. Rev. Bishop of Victoria (Trinity, C.), Chairman; Sir John Carrington (Lincoln, O.); Messrs. G. H. Ardron (Cains, C.), F. J. Bodeley (Jesus, C.), T. H. Batchelor (Worcester, O.), Bilderbeck (St. Catharine's, C.), F. H. R. Brayne (Trinity, C.), (Rev.) G. A. Bunbury (Oriel, O.), C. Clementi (Magdalen, O.), Curtis (Peterhouse, C.), (Rev.) J. Datham (Cavendish, C.), E. W. Fitch (Christ's, C.), P. W. Goldring (Trinity, O.), H. H. J. Gompertz (Exeter, O.), (Rev.) E. H. Good (Brasenose, O.), A. W. Grant (Pembroke, C.), (Rev.) J. B. Hall (Emmanuel, C.), E. R. Hallifax (Balliol, O.), J. Hays (Christ's, C.), J. D. Howkins (Trinity, O.), R. F. Johnston (Magdalen, O.), J. W. Norton Kyshe (Downing, C.), (Rev.) M. Longridge (Trinity, C.), C. A. D. Melkourne (Trinity Hall, C.), C. McL. Messer (Emmanuel, C.), (Rev.) A. R. Price (Queen's, C.), O. G. Ready (Jesus, C.), J. R. Reesce (Christchurch, O.), (Rev.) Robertson (Exeter, O.), P. W. Sergeant (Trinity, O.), E. H. Sharp (Lincoln, O.), H. W. St. de (New College, O.), (Rev.) E. H. Smith (Peterhouse, C.), T. B. Clarke Thorahill (Merton, O.), (Dr.) H. Townsend (Clare, C.), Wei On (Christchurch, O.), and J. B. Wood (Jesus, C.).

THE BRITISH TROOPS IN SHANGHAI.

COLONEL THE O'GORMAN PRESENT AT THE PARADE.

Quite a large number of the general public turned out on the Race Course at Shanghai on the 26th ult. on the occasion of Sir Alfred Gaslee's visit to the Settlement, when the British troops were reviewed. Colonel the O'Gorman, now on a visit to Shanghai, and Admiral Bruce were present at the Parade. The proceedings lasted the whole morning and were a pronounced success. Shortly before nine o'clock the Sikhs, Rajputs, and the Ghurkas arrived from Yangtzepoo, and a little later the Artillery, Cavalry, Madras Pioneers, and Baluchis. On the Polo Ground the Artillery with their 18 guns drew up and round the Grand Stand were the infantry, the different units taking up their positions so as to admit of the customary inspection. The General rode on the ground shortly before ten o'clock, and at once inspected the troops in open order. The saluting point was in front of the Golf Club, and in about the enclosure were the élite of the Settlement as well as the naval and military representatives of the various European powers. The General and staff, including General Creagh, V.C., who commands the Brigade of the China Expeditionary Force, having taken up their positions, the march past was very well done. The guns were the first in line, followed by the Bombay Cavalry, and Madras Pioneers. Heading the infantry were the Rajputs, Sikhs, Baluchis, and Ghurkas. The evolutions which followed were done in true soldierly style, the men being thoroughly equipped as if for active service. General Gaslee expressed his appreciation of the smart turn-out of the troops, and gave them a cheery word or two before they were dismissed.

On Wednesday night Colonel The O'Gorman was present at the drill on the Bund of A and B Companies of the S.V.C.

PRESENTATION TO MR. CALDWELL.

An interesting presentation ceremony took place on Tuesday night, at six o'clock, at the offices of the Dock Company, when Mr. G. A. Caldwell, accountant, who is shortly leaving for home though ill-health, was made the recipient of a valuable diamond scarf-pin and stud, and Mrs. Caldwell of a massive silver salver. A large party of friends were present, and presided over by Mr. D. Gillies, chief manager.

Mr. HOILE, book-keeper, who made the presentation on behalf of the staff, alluded to the more than friendly relations that had existed between the staff and Mr. Caldwell since the time he joined the Company as accountant sixteen years ago. He regretted sincerely the cause which had made it absolutely necessary for Mr. Caldwell to go home, and he trusted that health and strength would be completely restored and Mr. Caldwell thus enabled to return to Hongkong to his duties—duties he had ever faithfully and conscientiously discharged. (Applause)

Mr. CALDWELL feelingly replied, and expressed gratification that his efforts to merit the appreciation of his superiors in the carrying out of his duties had met with the reward he sought.

The health of Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell and family having been toasted, Mr. GILLIES, in a short speech, paid a high tribute to the work done by Mr. Caldwell in the interests of the Dock Company.

Mr. CALDWELL responded by proposing the health of Mr. Gillies, a toast which was enthusiastically received by the company. Mr. Caldwell referred to Mr. Gillies' coming resignation of his position as chief manager of the Dock Company, a position he had held for thirty-five years. He wished Mr. Gillies every prosperity at home, and trusted he would be long spared to enjoy the retirement he had so richly earned. (Applause.)

Mr. GILLIES briefly replied, and concluded by referring to the Dock Company, which he hoped would prosper in the future as in the past, and receive from the Government that measure of

support which its position as one of the chief industrial institutions of the colony entitled it to. (Applause.)

This concluded the ceremony, which lasted about an hour.

THEATRE ROYAL.

"THE RUNAWAY GIRL."

In the production of *The Runaway Girl* upon our local boards by the Dallas Company another great success has been achieved. The main thread of the perfectly reasonable plot upon which the authors, Messrs. Hicks and Nicholls, have based their amusing play, are kept in view throughout, and apart from the variety exhibited in the piece there is a much more steady adoption of the healthier methods of operetta than perhaps has been shown in the other musical plays included in the company's repertoire. An English heiress, Winifred Grey, has been brought up at a Corsican convent from which she escapes under the escort of a lay brother, and becomes a member of a band of wandering musicians. The necessary element of English society is provided by the advent of her guardian and friends, among them the eligible bridegroom, to avoid whom she has run away. Of course the two predestined for one another fall in love, and the young man is easily persuaded to join the troupe, whose members begin to assume the threatening duties of a band of brigands. The lovers, together with a little jockey who has been persuaded to act as courier to the English tourists, and has managed to compromise himself with the supposed brigands, escape to Venice, where, naturally, all the rest of the characters join them in time to take part in a water fete, which allows the whole company to appear in fancy dresses. The music of the piece is by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, and was admirably reproduced throughout all the three acts, especially in the solo and chorus, "Beautiful Venice," in which the choral parts are gradually introduced with most refined effect. Mr. Henry Dallas as "Flipper," the ex-jockey, from his first entrance when he is brought in by two gendarmes to his last appearance in a coon song, was excruciatingly funny. Mr. Hugh Metcalfe, whose voice has regained its strength, made a good "Guy Stanley," Lord Coodle's nephew: his Lordship being Mr. J. B. Ferrell. Miss Hettie Peel was one of the hits of the evening, her song, "The Soldiers in the Park," being thrice encored. Indeed each member of the cast sustained his or her part in their usual masterly manner, and the whole performance well deserved the intense enthusiasm with which it was received. The fancy dresses in the Venetian scene are as brilliant as can be, and all the three scenes through which the plot passes are picturesque.

On Wednesday and Thursday nights the Company revived *The Belle of New York*, Thursday being moreover a benefit performance for Mr. and Mrs. Dallas. To-night *San Toy* forms the concluding entertainment of the Dallas Co.'s season.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 1st April.

A CELEBRATED BRIGAND.

The redoubtable brigand chief Ao Sun, nicknamed "the Red-banded Sun" (from the head-dress which he wears), is a native of Sai Chiu, who exercises his terrorism all over Nam Hoi, Sun Tak, and the North and West Rivers. He is so crafty and often so successful in his tricks as to baffle all the efforts of the officials attempting his capture. But he is patriotic, and on account of his patriotism people from near and far flocked to enlist themselves under his banner. Tired of predatory life last autumn he vanished, to escape for some time from public notoriety. Consequently there were rumours spread by his associates that he had gone to Singapore; that he had surrendered himself to the Imperial army, and had been made a general; and that somehow or other he had been shot. But in reality he lives in retirement, while his associates go about levying blackmail to keep him. His residence is in the Yeong Kao village in the district of Shun Tak.

He says that he has been to many places, none of which have given him such a tranquil residence as Yeong Kao; and the villagers there screen and protect him from arrest by the Imperial troops. His income derived from blackmailing is from sixty to seventy thousand taels a year, but he is very fond of gambling at *san-tun*, and of spending his money liberally; so whenever any of his friends or acquaintances ask him for a loan he never denies them.

He is a good shot and has very sharp eyesight. The Chinese report that even in the complete darkness of night he can see objects at a distance of about a mile, and about a hundred feet off can distinguish male from female.

HOW AO SUN BECAME CHIEF.

It was said that Fu Chan Hoi used to be the most notorious brigand in Sai Chiu, and had collected a large number of thieves, and formed a society which went by the name of the Lün Yee Tong (i.e., United Patriotic Society). But as soon as Ao Sun appeared and made himself notorious by his extraordinary exploits in Kwangtung, Fu Chan Hoi had to give way to him and let him take precedence as the chief of brigands.

OTHER BRIGANDS.

Besides Ao Sun and Fu Chan Hoi there are other brigands not so notorious as the two described above. Such are Luk Kin, Luk Hin, Wan Kow, Ao Pin, and Lee Chiu. The latter could not agree with Ao Sun, so in 1899 he enlisted in the Imperial army and fought against Ao Sun. Wan Kow was shot dead by the Imperial troops, while Fu Chan Hoi, Luk Kin and Lin Hin, who had surrendered, were employed by Li Hung-chang, the late Viceroy of Canton, as generals. Ao Pin is living with Ao Sun in Shun Tak.

There is another brigand named Lao Fuk, a native of Sai Chiu, who is not so celebrated as those described above. For a few months he and his associates have been levying blackmail on junks, cargo-boats and merchant vessels along the North and West River. Through the machinations of two former friends he has been arrested by Commander Kat Sin, of the sin Hing garrison, brought to Canton the other day, and lodged in the gaol of the Nam-hoi Magistrate awaiting trial.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 18th March.

A PAUSE IN EVENTS.

The atmosphere of the high political world is as arid and dry as ever; there is absolutely nothing to chronicle; and if one may read by petty signs, nothing is expected in the very immediate future. I saw the able and distinguished correspondent of the *Times* passing through Tientsin two days ago on his way to Shanghai for a brief holiday, and it is a fair deduction to make that he does not expect any intelligence of serious import for a week or two. His place is *pro tem.* taken by Mr. Valentine Chirrol, the "Eastern" editor of the "Thunderer" in Printing House Square, who is out here on one of his occasional trips.

THE DEPARTURE OF THE AUSTRALIANS.

In Tientsin there are no signs whatever of a big move; our sole change is the impending departure of the fine Australian Contingent for home. Their heavy baggage is already coming forward from Peking, and as soon as the Royal Welsh arrive for their relief, off they will go, to the great regret of everyone who has in any way been associated with them. Their services in the North have been invaluable, though chiefly in the prosaic form of police: their one regret is that they have not yet been able to show their fighting mettle. It is just possible that they may yet at the very last moment have a chance, for we are in a state of very high excitement just now, and the folly of any Captain Bobadil, British, French, or Russian, might evoke a row of the first magnitude in the mutual intolerance due to national antipathies.

THE RAILWAY CRISIS.

The British took over the Railway in its entire length from Peking to Shanhaikwan on the 22nd ult., and their engineers at once set about providing additional siding accommodation in the neighbourhood of Tientsin

Station. In making these sidings our people removed some of the Russian flags which have been freely planted all over the proposed Russian Concession; quite apart from the question of the Concession, they claimed that these flags had no business on Railway ground—ground which had been acquired and paid for last spring before the outbreak of hostilities, and which is now urgently needed in the exigencies of military supply, for which the holders of the Railway are responsible to all the Allies. The Russians protested, maintaining that the ground in dispute had been bought by Mr. Batoueff and others; the British defended their action and maintained it by putting on guards, and so things went on for a few days. Early on Saturday, March 16th, when the siding had approached within sixty or seventy feet of the river, a party of Russians came along, placed a tent right across the head of the trench and a flag in front of the tent, and an armed guard alongside to protect both; at the moment this was done our sappers had not come up, and when they appeared to resume work, lo! a Russian flag was the first shovelful to be removed. There was a great deal of excitement, and a large body of men of the Hongkong Regiment and Madras Sappers went over and took up a position alongside of the Russians. At one or two places the men were in actual contact, and in several not more than ten feet apart. Everybody went over to see this unique position of affairs. It was somewhat ludicrous, but fortunately the stoical stolidity of Punjabi and Slav or Tartar was equal to the strain; with excitable Celtic or Southern blood, a casualty could have been more likely than not. There was great confabulation, and the matter was of course referred to Peking: at nightfall the sensible course was followed of withdrawing all the men but one of each side. Indeed one cannot see why small guards of unarmed men would not have been as effective all through the crisis.

THE QUESTION AT ISSUE.

The whole squabble turns on a detail of title. Whose is the ground? Surely this can be determined and acted on without reducing the position of Europe *vis-à-vis* the Chinese to ridicule. The affair will be sure to assume altogether wrong proportions in the Chinese mind, and may easily reach Hsian in such a form as to encourage the hope that the desired disagreement has begun in China's enemies. From the high political view such unseemly bickerings are criminal at this moment, and the party in the wrong is surely working detriment to our common civilisation. Many of us deprecated Russia's choice of this site for a Concession on the very ground now illustrated, viz., that quarrels were inevitable if one nationality made itself custodian of the approaches to the Railway. The extension or siding now being made was plotted out last spring, and land formally acquired; as ill luck may have it, it is extremely probable that the deeds perished in the total destruction of Railway Company's premises during the siege; still proof on oath is obtainable. There can also be no doubt that Mr. Batoueff, acting with an American and a Russian, also bought the land and got deeds of sorts. Duplicate sales with false deeds are as common as fleas in North China; it is of course equally possible that the second transaction was the legal one, but in that case the Russian Consular authorities will find it hard to circumvent their own proclamation that no sales of land in the said area subsequent to the 17th of June would be recognised. This somewhat hard and retrospective ukase was issued to check land-speculators, who were forestalling the Russian action and were buying up land cheap to sell dear. It has already been put in action against other purchasers, and it will be a very remarkable thing if Mr. Batoueff and his partners are allowed through the meshes that have caught others.

THE REASON FOR RUSSIA'S CHOICE.

Anonymous critics up here have in their own safe way challenged the St. Petersburg authorities to investigate the genesis of this concession idea, and the personality of the people who have gone in for land purchase in the area. They hint that high officials are in it, but well under cover. I have no gift of prophecy, but I venture the opinion that this is only the first of an endless series of troubles that will arise

in the selection of this particular site for the Concession. Why not have chosen another place? Because other places did not give the same chances for a grand coup. Lower down land could as easily have been got from the natives by compulsion or intimidation, but after purchase at values approximating to those of the prairie it could not have been sold within a few months at Tls. 1,000 to 1,500 per mu. Hence all these woes to Troy!

THE TROUBLE WITH THE FRENCH.

Our second crisis is due to the conduct of our French allies and neighbours. For some weeks the soldiers have been giving trouble in the British Concession on Sunday and leave-days; representations and protests have been ineffective, but things went too far when they cracked the head of the British General's orderly, and insulted English ladies in broad daylight in an English Settlement. Not that they call it insult; they only think it fun to stop a lady's ricksha, to walk six abreast and allow nobody to pass, and to address ladies with sham urbanity and in terms of endearment as if they belonged to the *demi-monde*. Then when our civilian folk make indignant complaints and they are shut out from the British Concession they take to chivvying British subjects and stoning British officers *en passant* through the French Concession. Yesterday two British officers were loudly hissed and "conspuez-ed" in passing into the French Consulate; a Sikh was badly mauled in the Taku Road on his way to or from the City, and Major Moelers, a British officer in uniform, had his hat knocked off and was personally hustled. Capt. Cleveland was not allowed by an angry mob to go to his rooms in the French Concession; stones were thrown at a tonga containing three artillery officers, and military rowdiness was rampant. There are just two things to be said in mitigation of all this—the great body of the men do not know the cause of the British complaints—the fact that ladies have been insulted by some French men unworthy of the name, and the other fact that the whole evil originates in low grog-shops, which it is simply a disgrace that all the military chiefs have not suppressed long ago. The tension yesterday was so acute that an accident might have precipitated civil (?) war in our streets. To obviate possibilities of rows our military authorities made the French Concession "out of bounds" to our men.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 23rd ult:—

A large portion of the Bund is now given up by the authorities for commercial requirements.

The incident in connection with the French soldiery has, we believe, been amicably settled and the *entente cordiale* again restored.

A Race Meeting this spring is very likely indeed, many griffins having come down lately. The course is beginning to assume a sporting-like aspect during the early mornings.

The Tientsin Prefect appointed to Tientsin has retired with all his large staff to Chungchao, as he finds his services are not required by the Provisional Government.

At Tungku and Hsiku, east and west of Taku, are the villages which are the headquarters of the brigands who are giving the neighbourhood so much trouble now.

Many Chinese guns and shells have been advantageously placed to decorate the Victoria Park and to commemorate the past experiences which we trust may never occur again.

The Treasurer of Chihli, Chou Fu, and the late Minister to Corea, are reported to be coming to Tientsin to consult with the military authorities about the new Settlements.

A native boat fully loaded with export cargo for the steamer *Lienhsing* has been robbed down the river by Chinese brigands. The owners of the cargo were Chinese. This sort of thing the Chinese declare will be increasingly frequent.

Viceroy Chang has remonstrated with Li Hung-chang because the Manchus who committed suicide on the fall of Peking have been rewarded and the Chinese have not, and he thinks it unjust that this distinction should be made.

The Provisional Government in Peking absolved the people from all taxation for three months because of their poverty, but it appears natives in the employ of the Provisional Government thought to make hay while the sun shone, and collected some on their own account.

We are very much interested and pleased to learn that a very handsome presentation has been made by the officers and men of the China Squadron to Miss Bourignon for her devoted services to the naval force here during the siege. The acknowledgment of her skilful and unwavering attention to the sick and wounded takes the form of a silver tea service, each piece bearing an inscription; the spoons representing the various British men-of-war here at the time. Needless to say the present has given Miss Bourignon very great pleasure, and all will be glad to know her services have been so handsomely acknowledged.

AFFAIRS ON THE YANGTSE.

Things along the river seem to be very quiet, albeit uncertain. Every one maintains his personal opinion on the situation, which in the absence of official and reliable information is perhaps the best and only way. So far there is little that one hears that is different from the mass of received opinion and at the same time worthy of further consideration.

The people maintain their usual attitude towards foreigners which, so far as the lower Yangtze is concerned, has never been remarkable for its friendliness or concerned for the ultimate fate of the foreigners.

At Hankow general confidence is expressed in the good intentions of the Wuchang Viceroy, who has admittedly a most difficult part to play. To add to his other embarrassments he is now suffering from an attack of the prevailing influenza, for which he appears to be taking a native cure, distrusting, apparently, the native quacks and equally disinclined to the foreign pharmacy.

The water in the river is exceptionally low this year and navigation is consequently more difficult and more uncertain. "The oldest inhabitant" is in request to furnish a parallel for the present year in which the watermark at Hankow is some two feet below zero.

Whenever the steamer gets near enough to shore for one to distinguish the words shouted at us, the ear is constantly assailed with shouts of "foreign devil, foreign devil," accompanied by indecent gestures on the part of the children and young people generally.

At Shasi we learn that the only way to save oneself from constant insult while walking in the country is to carry along some cash, and give one to the railers one meets and so buy off their loud mouthed reviling.

Shasi trade is said to be increasing in spite of the discrimination made against the port by the older steamship companies.

The Japanese are aiming to develop the trade of the port, and so far have done the bulk of the carrying trade with a fair share of the passenger traffic. Given a hulk here, with decent landing facilities for both passengers and freight, the trade of this important place should rise steadily, its proximity to Iouang notwithstanding. There is an agent for the German steamers living here in a hulk just off the customs landing, and it is probable that, between the German and Japanese lines, Shasi will get more attention than has hitherto been accorded to it.—*Mercury*.

The *Nagasaki Press* says that a Japanese fishing boat, on entering Chinhaian recently, was warned off by a Russian man-of-war. This is regarded as very serious, since the incident seems to show Russian military occupation of that part of Corea. Annually some 6,000 boats from Tsushima and the coasts of Kyushu visit Chinhaian during the course of their fishing cruise. The industry of fish-curing is engaged in before the commodity is brought back to Japan. Should Russia's demand for the cession of Chinhaian be acceded to by the Korean authorities, a fatal blow will be dealt to the Japanese fishing industry. The Tokyo Government appears, for the time being, to be struck with amazement by the Russian activity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

A SUGGESTION FOR THE ACTING D.P.W.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 1st April.

SIR.—It would be an undoubted convenience to visitors to the Peak district *via* the tram-line if name-plates were affixed outside the Plantation Road Station, showing which was Barker Road and which Plantation Road. I have known visitors, on more than one occasion, go wrong, and be put to no inconsiderable amount of inconvenience and annoyance, which would certainly not have happened if the names of the two roads above mentioned had been in sight. I am fully aware that two name-plates do exist, lower down, at the junction of the Peak and Plantation Roads; but, as practically no one nowadays, except carrying coolies, passes up and down by that route, they are not of much use.

There is no sign at either end of Barker Road to tell a stranger what road he is on. I feel sure that the present Acting D. P. W., who is nothing if not practical, will take the hint and remedy the omission complained of.—Yours, etc.,

HILLS.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Lütgens, Einstmann & Co., 14, Des Vœux Road, on Wednesday, 3rd inst., at noon, for the purpose of considering, and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution:—

"That the Company be wound up voluntarily and that Max Bennecke, the business manager of the Company in New South Wales, be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

Mr. R. C. Wilcox presided, and there were also present:—Messrs. G. Atzenroth, A. Denison (directors), C. Osmund, F. F. Eça da Silva, Chan Kin Hoi, K. Edulji, C. E. Osmund, Ellis Kelly, R. M. Mehta, Carl Georg, Ezekiel, S. A. Joseph, Guimaraes, K. Wibel, G. Engel, and C. Mittel.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said he would first confirm the minutes of the last private meeting of the shareholders held on 23rd March last, which was so poorly attended that they had decided to convene the present one, and continued:—Gentlemen, I am sorry that we have to meet under such circumstances as the present, which have been brought about by the state of our finances. As I told you at the previous private meeting, we were driven to this alternative, or else that of making a call. Now, I do not think for a moment that there is any chance of our getting any call which may be made, or, at all events, from more than a very small portion of the shareholders, and I am quite sure we shall not succeed in getting in a sum sufficient to enable us to obtain a return on our capital. We have only a dollar to call up, and that would not carry us far, or enable us to develop our property to any extent. Besides, the basis upon which a call could be made is a very slender one. We have not very encouraging reports from the mines, and our only hope appears to be in the prospecting shaft on the Great Eastern mines, the one near to the claim which Long is working and which has turned out successful for the present. But we never know how long it will last, for our experience has been that these finds fizzle out in rapid succession. You strike a patch of gold, and you sometimes get rich results, but more often than enough they are but moderate results. I do not think these mines have done much better; they have certainly sunk deeper, and raised more ore. To deal

with our own mine, I will read to you our manager's last report. He says in a letter dated 4th March:—"In my last letter of 26th February I told you already that the air in the prospecting shaft was bad, and on account of the hot weather since it became worse and the contractors tried to back out of their contract. To procure better ventilation I made an agreement with Long to drive from his workings north and make connection with the small drive in our shaft at 25s. per foot. The distance is about 15 feet, and he is to commence to-day. This connection had to be made anyhow, but I intended to do it after sinking 30 feet and by driving from the shaft to the South. I shall get a few tons of quartz from this drive, and shall run it through the battery at the first crushing of Long and the Tributors. On the 1st inst. I measured the sinking done by the contractors, and found it to be 11½ feet." That is all he tells us, and it is not very encouraging. Of course Long's claim may turn out good, and it may not. Our shaft adjoins it, and it may afford us a chance, but I think it is a slender one, too slender indeed to warrant us putting up more capital. However, I have come to the conclusion—and I think a conclusion which will be endorsed by every shareholder that it is better, in the present state of the market with regard to mining concerns generally, that we should liquidate. If we went on we might call up 25 cents, and even the dollar, and if we had to liquidate then we should have nothing to call up, and nothing to liquidate with. That would hardly be wise, I think. We have telegraphed down to the mines and asked Mr. Bennecke to see if he could get any offer for the property and he replied that he has been offered £1,000 for the whole of the property and that the offer would not last longer than April 30th. Well, gentlemen, that is not a very brilliant offer, but it is the best he can get. We shall, of course, instruct him to try and get a better offer. I think our property is worth a great deal more than £1,000, but we shall have to take the best we can get. And now, before proposing the resolution, upon which we have been called together to-day I shall be glad to answer any questions which may be put to me, or hear any suggestions which any shareholders may have to make.

Mr. S. A. JOSEPH—What are the financial prospects of the Company? Will the preference shareholders get the value of their shares?

The CHAIRMAN replied that they had got here and at the mines about \$8,000, a little more or less—a little more, he thought. Of course preference shareholders holding ordinary shares would have to pay up on ordinary shares, and preference shareholders who hold preference shares only were entitled to payments if they had anything to pay with. He presumed that they would take the dividend.

Mr. CARL GEORG thought that £1,000 was much too small an amount for the machinery: it was worth three times as much. If the property was taken to pieces and sent to the nearest railway station, some 14 miles distant, it would fetch at least about twice as much as the amount offered.

The CHAIRMAN—What would be the cost of the cartage?

Mr. CARL GEORG—About a pound a ton. As far as I can remember, there are 200 tons weight of machinery. There are 6 frue vanners, which alone would cost £200 when new, and they are absolutely new to-day and easily saleable. They are in request just now, and would command a ready sale. They should fetch at least between £600 and £700. Then there is an absolutely new winding plant, which should fetch from £400 to £450. The two boilers, engines and grinding pans are easily saleable, and the whole should not fetch less than £2,500, if properly managed.

The CHAIRMAN—I think £1,000 is a very low offer, and I may say we are not prepared to accept it.

Mr. CARL GEORG.—It should fetch even more than £2,500, for there are, besides the plant I have mentioned, all the corrugated iron on the sheds, which would easily sell, and which at present is worth much more than at the time it was bought. Spelter has gone up in price considerably. Then there is the timber—Oregon pine—that has to be taken

into account, to say nothing of the little odds and ends. If you accept the offer *en bloc* as it stands on the ground, you will of course get much less than if you took it apart and sold it piecemeal. At least you should get 100 per cent. more by sending it to the next station. To accept an offer for the plant as it stands you will simply slaughter the machinery.

Mr. ELLIS KELLY—I think it would be as well to ask Mr. Georg to get an offer for it, or get some one down there to do as he suggests; take the plant to pieces and sell it piecemeal. He has lots of friends there, and we could give him a commission for his trouble. I move that he be asked to do so.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, any suggestion in reason that would enable us to secure a larger sum would of course be worth entertaining.

Mr. MEHTA—I beg to second it. He is familiar with the mines, and no one has worked for the company better than he has. He certainly would do better than any one else.

The CHAIRMAN—This meeting is only called to pass the resolution which has been published, and which has just been read to you. I cannot receive any other, but any suggestions you make will receive attention.

Mr. CARL GEORG—There are certain firms in Sydney who make it a business to do that kind of thing. They buy machinery on the ground, and then they take it to pieces, and reap a great profit by it. I make these remarks in order to put you on your guard against those kind of people.

The CHAIRMAN—Your remarks shall be conveyed to the general manager on the spot, and he will be put on his guard. He will be instructed to sell it in sections or to the best advantage. If there are no other questions, I beg to propose the adoption of the following resolution:—

"That the Company be wound up voluntarily and that Max Bennecke, the business manager of the Company in New South Wales, be and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

Mr. CARL GEORG—One moment, sir! Are you going to make a call? Last year, you will remember, in your speech you referred to the liability of the preference shareholders and I suppose the position to-day is the same as last year. How much have we got to pay? Are the preference shareholders to be paid in full?

The CHAIRMAN—As far as it is possible, I will answer you. I am in hopes that there will be no necessity for making any call. We shall do it in this way. Those ordinary shareholders who hold preference shares, we shall place one against the other and we shall only have to pay on the balance.

Mr. CARL GEORG—I cannot understand it quite. If a man has got 2,000 preference shares and 1,000 ordinary shares will he be paid on the 2,000 preference shares in full, and have to pay a call on the 1,000 shares in proportion?

The CHAIRMAN—I think he would be paid in full. I am bound to tell you that if there are not sufficient assets there may be a call. In any case the ordinary shareholders, or most of them, are preference shareholders, and so to speak they would only be paying out of one pocket to put it into the other.

Mr. CARL GEORG—Then the preference shareholder gets the full amount of his shares?

Mr. S. A. JOSEPH said the question resolved itself into this. If there were 54,000 preference shareholders out of which 34,000 were owned by shareholders who held ordinary shares, there would be a balance of 16,000 upon which the company would have to pay, if there was any call, but the balance was so small that a call was scarcely likely.

The CHAIRMAN—I think you may take it for granted that it will work out properly. I do not think there will be any difficulty about it. I am rather sanguine that better terms can be obtained than in this offer we have received.

The resolution was then seconded by Mr. ELLIS KELLY, and on being put to the meeting was carried on a show of hands by 13 to 3.

The CHAIRMAN said the resolution which had just been carried would be submitted for confirmation as a special resolution to a second extraordinary general meeting, which would be convened to take place on 17th April.

That concluded the business.

CHINA-BORNEO CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the second ordinary yearly meeting, to be held at the offices of the Company at noon on Saturday, 13th April:—

Gentlemen,—The manager and consulting committee beg to present to the shareholders the second ordinary yearly report of the Company.

The net profit for the year after paying all charges amounts to \$48,694.94 To this has to be added the balance brought forward from last account 23,494.96

72,189.90

From this has to be deducted:—

Fees to consulting committee 1,500.00

Leaving available for appropriation \$70,689.90

The consulting committee recommend that a dividend of 25 per cent. on the subscribed capital be paid to shareholders \$29,270.00

To write off launches and lighters 10,000.00

To carry to reserve 30,000.00

To carry forward to next account 1,419.90

\$70,689.90

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., retires, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

J. WHEELEY,
Manager.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1901.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

To 31st December, 1900.

LIABILITIES.

Capital:—
916 shares each \$20 paid ... \$18,320.00
6,584 shares each \$15 paid ... 98,760.00

117,080.00

7,500 Sundry creditors 5,661.64

Contingency account:—

Provision against loss of advances to contractors and labourers 8,935.00

Balance of profit and loss account 72,189.90

\$203,916.54

ASSETS.

Hongkong saw mills:—

Value as per last account \$38,459.48

Since added 10,594.52

49,054.00

Sandakan saw-mills 26,000.00

Launches and lighters:—

Value as per last account \$18,000.00

Less value of lighter sold 2,500.00

15,500.00

Cost of new lighter China

since added 8,309.96

23,809.96

Land and house property 4,685.40

Sandakan engine works 3,644.01

Furniture 500.00

Rough and sawn timber, stock of 50,401.49

Stores, stock of 11,381.86

Sundry debtors 2,142.50

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash with 21,452.97

Cash in hand 10,844.35

\$203,916.54

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1900.

Dr.

To cost of management, office expenses and general charges 17,165.50

To preliminary expenses 487.00

To auditor's fee 100.00

To balance carried to profit and loss account 48,694.94

\$66,447.44

Cr.

By profit on sales of rough and sawn timber, &c. 65,831.17

By interest 598.27

By scrip fees 18.00

\$66,447.44

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To amount available for appropriation 72,189.90

\$72,189.90

By amount brought forward from last account 23,494.96

By balance of working account brought down 48,694.94

\$72,189.90

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twelfth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the office of the general managers, on Saturday, 13th April, at 11 a.m.

Annexed we have the pleasure to lay before shareholders a statement of accounts made up to 31st December, 1900.

The net profit, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, amounts to \$82,896.57, which it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz:—

To place to reserve fund ... \$812.50

To pay a dividend of 8 per cent 79,843.20

To carry forward to next year's account 2,240.87

The profit on working is considerably larger than that of last year, but, in order to introduce the brand to new markets and to find an outlet for our increased production, lower prices had to be accepted at first, in consequence of which the average price obtained per barrel was rather less than what we may expect in future when our cement has become firmly established on those markets. In accordance with a special resolution passed on 12th April last, the paid-up capital of the Company was raised to \$1,000,000, but the benefit of this increase has not yet made itself felt owing to the great delay and loss of time experienced in having the necessary additional machinery made at home. The brick and tile works at Deep Water Bay, we are glad to say, still continue to leave a good profit on their original cost to the Company.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Ewens, Chater, Dickson and Gillies retire, but offer themselves for re-election. It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Li Sing, who was associated with the Company for many years.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. F. Henderson and W. H. Potts, who are eligible for re-election.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 3rd March, 1901.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st December, 1900.

Donation to Indian Famine Fund 500.00
Interest 3,944.53
Consulting committee's fees 1,500.00
Auditors' fees 400.00
Amount written off as depreciation for 1900 56,729.15
Balance 82,896.57

\$ 45,970.25

Balance brought forward from 1900 34,476.21

Exchange 10.35

Balance of working account:—

Sales of cement \$104,853.00

Sales of bricks, &c. 6,625.69

111,483.69

\$145,970.25

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.

Capital:—
99,394 shares at \$10, fully paid up 993,940.00
Reserve fund 326,187.50
Due to general managers 7,051.43
Debentures drawn but not presented 600.00
Sundry creditors 37,967.15
Balance of profit and loss 82,896.57

\$1,452,742.65

ASSETS.

Green Island, Macao:—
Buildings and machinery, as per last statement \$180,000.00
New kilns and machinery 18,233.76
Less depreciation 12,233.76

186,000.00

Cement, raw material, &c., in stock 42,435.54

Hok Un, Hongkong:—

Cost of land, buildings and machinery as per last statement \$676,443.99

Final payments on above 28,760.82

\$703,204.81

Less depreciation 42,204.81

661,000.00

Payment account new extension to 31st December, 1900 106,239.17

106,239.17

Cement, raw material, &c. 144,087.47
Deep Water Bay, works:—
Cost of land, buildings, machinery, &c., as per last statement \$30,000.00
New kilns and building 7,290.58
Less depreciation 2,290.58
Pricks, pipes, &c. in stock 35,000.00
Furniture 29,385.63
Cement on consignment 500.00
Sundry debtors 10,552.75
Value of premium on unexpired policies 53,023.44
Cash on hand 862.92
Head office \$3,070.67
Macao works 228.05
Hok Un works 15.37
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank 8,314.00
Instalment paid on steam-lighter, launch and lighters 108,931.49
66,410.10
\$1,452,742.65

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 1st April.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A LIQUOR STORAGE DISPUTE.

The suit of Luiz Maria Jacques Alvares v. The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. was set down for hearing. It was brought by the plaintiff, who is a merchant and commission agent, carrying on business at 39, Queen's Road Central, under the style or firm name of L. M. Alvares & Co. On or about the 4th day of September, 1899, the firm received a consignment of brandy and anisette from Manila by the steamer *Diamante*, and stored the same with the defendant Company. Two days later, namely, on 6th September, the plaintiff inspected the goods in the godown, and found them intact. Subsequent to that time the defendant Company had failed to take proper care of the goods, and on 19th September the plaintiff received a letter from the defendants stating that the floor of one of their godowns had collapsed, and that 125 demi-johns, part of the said consignment, had been damaged. He subsequently examined the consignment and found that a number had been totally destroyed, and that six other demi-johns, part of the said consignment, were injured and so greatly lessened in value that he (the plaintiff) declined to take delivery of the same. Two other demi-johns, the plaintiff averred, were missing. He therefore claimed \$8,032.67 alleged damages sustained by reason of the loss of and injury to the 133 demi-johns referred to.

The defence was an admission that 133 demi-johns were stored with the defendant Company, but that 125 only of them were destroyed. It was denied that there were any missing, and that the only damage done to the demi-johns not so destroyed was that the seals were cracked. The Company stated their willingness to pay for the 125 demi-johns so destroyed, and to pay to the plaintiff his losses in respect of two other demi-johns sent by the Company to the Government analyst for analysis. The defendants stated that the so-called brandy was not brandy at all, but was a mixture of rectified spirit derived from sugar, with sugar, water, and the flavouring essence of rum added, and was not of a greater value than \$13 per demi-john. They denied their liability to pay for the remaining six demi-johns. They therefore paid into Court \$1,916.83, being the value of 92 demi-johns of so-called brandy at \$13 per demi-john, together with \$80.83 freight and charges thereon, and \$500 commission by way of damages generally, and stated that the sum paid was enough to satisfy the plaintiff's claim.

Mr. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Francis, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) represented the defendant Company.

Mr. Sharp, in opening, said that no doubt the court was fully aware of the peculiar position in which the plaintiff found himself, that

of being absolutely dependent on the invoice of the manufacturer of the goods who was not then forthcoming as a witness. His Lordship had considered the point on Saturday as to whether he was able to postpone the hearing in view of the circumstances that that necessary witness was not here, and His Lordship had decided not to do so. Under these circumstances the plaintiff felt there was no better course open to him but to ask the court to allow him to consent to judgment being signed, and allowing him to take the money (\$1,916.83) out of court.

Mr. Francis:—I have no objection provided we get our costs subsequent to the payment in.

His Lordship:—Then let judgment be entered for the defendant with leave to the plaintiff to take out of court the amount paid in, namely \$1,916.83, and the plaintiff will get his costs of suit up to the date of the payment into court, and the defendant will have the costs of the suit subsequent to that date. I regret that I could not see my way to agree to the application to postpone the trial. If I could have been certain the man would be forthcoming it would have been different.

Mr. Sharp:—There was a degree of uncertainty about it, my Lord.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. TEAM V. NAVY TEAM.

The last match of the season, which was announced to be played on Saturday, the 30th ult., "weather permitting," duly came off on a pitch somewhat softened by recent rain. The sides were drawn from the Club and the Navy, but neither was a representative team, and the match had not the importance of previous encounters between the sides. In the end a draw was effected, the Club going in second against a score of 240 and losing seven wickets for 111 runs. The principal scorers for the Navy were Lieut. Wood (73) and Mr. Moon (53), while there were several other useful contributions. Lieut. Krikenbeek (25) and Major Dorehill (26) did best for the Club. No sensational bowling feats were seen, Mr. McKinley's 3 for 22 being the best analysis. Scores and analysis.—

THE NAVY.	
Mr. Bull, R.N., c Hay, b Krikenbeek	1
Mr. Fitch, R.N., c Hooper, b Dorehill	6
Lieut. Wood, R.N., c Krikenbeek, b Buttanshaw	73
Lieut. Moreton, R.N., c substitute, b Dorehill	4
Mr. Mahon, R.N., not out	19
Mr. Pringle, R.N., b Langhorne	2
Mr. Silver, R.N., b Langhorne	15
Leading Seaman Killick, run out	23
Mr. Moore, R.N., l.b.w., b Krikenbeek	53
Mr. Manisty, R.N., c Ainslie, b Buttanshaw	3
Mr. McKinley, R.N., c and b Langhorne	25
Extras	16
Total	240

THE CLUB.	
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., b Killick	0
Lieut. Krikenbeek, 22nd B.I., run out	25
Capt. Osborne, R.A., b Silver	15
Lieut. Lamb, 3rd M.L.I., c Bull, b McKinley	12
Major Dorehill, R.A., c Mahon, b McKinley	26
Capt. Ainslie, 3rd M.L.I., l.b.w., b McKinley	13
Mr. J. Hooper, b Silver	5
Major Buttanshaw, A.S.C., not out	6
Mr. Coomber, not out	3
Mr. C. H. P. Hay, did not bat	
Mr. Woodgates, did not bat	
Extras	6
Total	111

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE NAVY.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Dorehill	27	7	66	2
Krikenbeek	10	1	53	2
Langhorne	16.2	0	62	3
Buttanshaw	9	2	43	2
THE CLUB.				
Silver	13	0	41	2
Killick	13	2	33	1
McKinley	12	2	22	3
Manisty	4	1	9	0

The Japanese commercial museum started last year in Bangkok is said to be doing much for the advancement of Japanese trade in Siam. The actual sight of the goods to be purchased has an effect which catalogues and commercial travellers cannot produce.

FOOTBALL.

SCOTLAND V. THE WORLD.

What was practically the closing match of the season took place on Saturday, the 30th ult., when that greatly-looked-forward-to international event, Scotland v. The World, came off. Much time and care had been expended in the selection of the teams, and both consequently were thoroughly representative, though of course criticisms were not lacking as to their composition. A great number of spectators were present, and the stand, as at the final for the Shield, was crowded. The following players lined up when the whistle was sounded:—

The World (white). — Goal — Field (Siege Train); backs—O'Brien (Siege Train) and Thornhill (R.E.); half-backs—Jenkins (H.K.A.F.C.), Pownall (R.W.F.), and Howard (H.K.A.F.C.); forwards—Gettings (Siege Train), Cleave (Siege Train), Lowe (H.K.A.F.C.), Noble (H.K.A.F.C.) and Bond (Siege Train).

Scotland (green, white badges). — Goal—Hogben (R.A.); backs—Smart (R.W.F.) and McMurray (R.A.); half-backs—Roberts (R.W.F.), Bonnar (H.K.A.F.C.), and Nicol (Siege Train); forwards—Bell (R.A.), Captain Tulloch (H.K.A.F.C., captain), Phinn (Siege Train), Ross (Butterfield & Swire), and Demery (R.W.F.).

Scotland opened the game, facing the west goal, but the first attack came from The World. Smart was on the alert, and centred cleverly. Play was taken up briskly by the forwards and the ball carried up to within twenty yards of Field. A hard shot came from the right wing, but Ross failed to redirect the ball, which was traversing the World's goal, and it found the back of the net. Two minutes later the Scottish goal was being bombarded, and Hogben was somewhat lucky in saving an unintentional overhead kick from one of his own side. Scotland's outside right captured and made a dash along the wing, effectually clearing his territory of the opposing eleven. He appeared to be winded, and shot feebly, Field allowing the ball to run over. The game in its opening stages was slow, and ten minutes went past without anything remarkable in the way of play having been witnessed. Scotland was first to alter this aspect of affairs. Phinn took charge in his own territory, and, after an exhibition of that tricky work he is so skilful at, passed to Tulloch. The latter covered as much ground as he was allowed to, and returned the ball to Phinn. From Phinn it went to Ross, and then over to Bell, who picked up ground on the wing and centred. Phinn, however, disinclined to exertion, and allowed the pass to be taken up by the other side, who in turn converged towards Hogben's charge. McMurray accounted ably for the backs, however, and centred. Bonnar got the ball at his feet, and after a sharp run made a good try to open the scoring, apparently disinclined to trust the task to the forwards. Though well placed, the shot was easily saved by Field. Bond next was so far successful as to gain a corner, which finally went over the bar. Scotland in the first half had any advantage that was going, and would possibly have scored playing against any other custodian than Field, who got more to do than Hogben. Bonnar and McMurray showed up exceedingly well, and fed smartly a rather ungrateful, because too easy-going, line of forwards. The defences tired out the right wing, however, by giving it practically everything to do. On The World's side, Gettings and Bond played a good game, the former gaining especial applause on one occasion by his smartness in keeping the ball in play when the leather was almost over Scotland's boundary line. Neither side had scored at half-time.

Crossing over, The World made the first serious encroachment, but got no farther than Bonnar. The rebuff proved to be only temporary, but in the end Hogben did not find it necessary to handle the ball, which went harmlessly past. Give-and-take play followed the goal kick, but eventually the Scottish eleven were again forced to act on the defensive. Bond sent in a beauty from near the corner flag, and dropped the ball in front of Hogben. Gettings played it, but threw away a really splendid chance by lifting the leather over the bar. Relieving a nasty pressure, McMurray sent the

ball well out. It was taken up by the outside right, who covered ground quickly and shot. Ross rushed to take Field, but the ball struck the side of the net. Continuing, Smart returned a hard shot from Gettings, and the ball was played in centre. At this point the referee gave a foul against Bonnar, but for what reason was not very clear. The World's forwards followed up their advantage, and a telling shot was sent in. Hogben was equal to the situation, and returned the ball, which was played towards Field. O'Brien easily stopped, and took the ball into Scotland's territory. Bond took the pass, and got behind the backs with the ball at his feet. Hogben ran out, but slipped in tackling and fell just as Bond kicked for goal. The ball ran right across an absolutely open goal, and was over the line before Bond could overtake it. The goal appeared so sure that the other forwards had hung back, probably not deeming it necessary to follow up; thus the chance was missed. A few minutes later Bonnar gave away a free kick by an illegal charge, and in a hard scrimmage at goal McMurray was forced to concede a corner, which proved to be the best thing possible, as the ball was eventually sent over the line. Phinn took charge from the goal kick, but was selfish with the ball, and sacrificed the interests of his side to his fondness for exhibition play. As a result, Scotland very rarely got past the half-backs or backs. On neither side, however, was play as good as it might have been, and full time came without a goal having been scored.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

COMMODORE'S PRIZES.

On Saturday, 30th March, the Commodore gave three prizes for service boats belonging to His Majesty's ships in harbour, to be steered by midshipmen. A fleet of nearly fifty boats of all sizes turned out to compete, the course being round Channel Rock, and back twice round. The wind was light from the east with a strong flood tide running, and this made beating up to the Channel Rock a very slow process for them; but the race was contested with the greatest keenness, and if some of the youngsters refused to give way when on the port tack to yachts on the starboard tack, who shall blame them? The result was:—

H.M.S.		
<i>Ocean's</i>	Pinnace, Midshipman Leslie,	1st.
<i>Centurion's</i>	Gig, " Germain,	2nd.
<i>Goliath's</i>	Pinnace, " "	3rd.

The *Blenheim's* pinnace, which came in second, was disqualified by the judges for fouling at the start. On the same afternoon and starting half an hour later, viz. 2. p.m., the yachts in the championship class started for a prize also presented by our most sporting Commodore, the conditions being that the yacht should be steered by a lady. The following started at the handicap shown:—

<i>Alannah</i>	Mrs. Leigh	allows
<i>Bonito</i>	Miss Bird	30 secs.
<i>Iris</i>	Miss Blake	1 min.
<i>Erica</i>	Miss Jackson	2 min.
<i>Maid Marian</i>	Mrs. Lambton	
<i>Chanticleer</i>	Miss Clieve	
<i>Doreen</i>	Mrs. Bagnall Wild	3 min.

At the beginning there was a great deal of changing places, all getting away fairly level except *Alannah*, who had greatly misjudged the time. *Chanticleer* sailing very well kept the lead until near Channel Rocks, where she was passed by *Bonito*, who was now going very well indeed. The first three round Channel Rocks were in the order named—*Bonito*, *Iris*, *Chanticleer*, with the remainder some distance astern. On the run down to the line *Chanticleer* passed *Iris* and maintained her lead for the remainder of the race.

The times of finishing were:—

	H. M. S.	Corrected time.
<i>Bonito</i>	4 59 51	4 59 31 (Winner)
<i>Chanticleer</i>	5 2 18	5 0 18
<i>Iris</i>	5 4 15	5 3 15
<i>Maid Marian</i>	5 4 35	5 2 35
<i>Alannah</i>	5 7 43	5 7 43
<i>Erica</i>	5 8 55	5 6 55
<i>Doreen</i>	5 9 45	5 6 45

CAPTAIN BROWNE'S CUP.

On Sunday, 31st March, a race was set down for decision for a cup very kindly presented by Captain Browne, C.I.H., the course being from the usual starting point round Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock, and the mark-boat on the line twice round, all marks being left to port. Time allowance Y.R.A. scale, ratings to be calculated under the new rule. At gunfire *Bonito*, *Doreen* and *Iris* were over the line and were recalled, thus putting them a long way back. There was a nice easterly wind blowing of nearly whole sail strength, and a very pretty beat up to Channel Rock ended in *Alannah* getting round first, followed by *Bonito* and *Maid Marian*, the remainder, having overshot their mark considerably, being close together but considerably behind. On the run and reach to the mark boat *Bonito* closed up on *Alannah* and they started again for the beat on almost level terms, but *Alannah*, sailing too well for *Bonito*, gradually drew ahead and helped by a lift of wind at Channel Rocks rounded them nearly five minutes ahead. The run to Kowloon and the reach and run home were uneventful and a fast-sailed race ended as below:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Alannah</i> (Winner) ...	3	23	54
<i>Bonito</i> ...	3	28	10
<i>Iris</i> ...	3	30	59
<i>Maid Marian</i> ...	3	33	54
<i>Meteor</i> ...	3	34	28
<i>Erica</i> ...	3	36	45
<i>Chanticleer</i> ...	3	38	41
<i>Doreen</i> ...	3	39	2
<i>Ladybird</i> ...	(did not finish)		

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

Three boat-races came off on Saturday, the 30th ult., under the auspices of the Victoria Recreation Club, and a very good attendance gathered to witness them. The Hon. Secretary's launch followed the race, with members of the Club on board. The first event was a "Picked Scratch Race," with an entrance fee of \$1 each, for which three crews entered:—

Station No. 1, *Kornblume*—H. W. B. Kennett, A. E. Asger, C. E. A. Hance, R. Lapsley (capt.), F. W. White (cox).

Station No. 2, *Rose*—M. E. Asger, F. D. Bain, J. Millar, A. A. Alves (capt.), J. H. R. Hance (cox).

Station No. 3, *Shamrock*—C. M. S. Alves, N. H. Alves, F. M. Rosa Pereira, A. E. Alves (capt.), T. Meek (cox).

Rose won by two lengths from *Kornblume*, *Shamrock* giving up after completing three-quarters of the course.

The second race was an "Arranged Scratch Race," with entrance fee as before. Three boats were entered:—

Station No. 1, *Rose*—M. E. Asger, A. E. Asger, J. Millar, A. E. Alves (capt.), T. Meek (cox).

Station No. 2, *Kornblume*—H. W. B. Kennett, F. D. Bain, F. M. Rosa Pereira, C. E. A. Hance (cox).

Station No. 3, *Leek*—N. H. Alves, H. M. Bain, R. Lapsley, A. A. Alves (capt.), F. W. White (cox).

The three boats pulled well together for half a mile, when *Rose* took the lead and won, *Kornblume* coming in second. The winner's time was 6 min. 17 sec.

The final event was a Tub Sculling Race, for which five members entered:—Messrs. J. H. R. Hance, F. M. Rosa Pereira, F. K. Tata, H. W. B. Kennett, and C. E. A. Hance. J. H. R. Hance, who drew Station No. 4, won by two lengths from C. E. A. Hance, Station No. 2.

Mr. Denison was starter, and Messrs. W. Armstrong and A. A. Souza judges.

Some of the Korean officials who were recently arrested, as we have reported already, have been sentenced to exile for life, and others for periods ranging up to fifteen years. A few of the more fortunate were set at liberty. The recent troubles in Seoul are said to have been due to the machinations of the clique working in the interests of Lady Om, the Emperor's favourite mistress, to get her installed as Empress. Everything is in a chaotic state.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Cramer recorded his first win in the Long Range Cup on Saturday, the 30th ult. The conditions were 10 shots and a sighter at 700 and 800 yards.

The following are the best scores:—

	700 yds.	800 yds.	H'cap	Total.
* Mr. G. P. Lammett ...	45	46	—	91
* Mr. Cramer ...	48	43	—	91
* Q. M. S. Wallace, R.E. ...	47	40	—	87
* Mr. F. Penning ...	33	34	17	84
Mr. J. Pidgeon ...	45	38	—	83
Sgt. Wake ...	45	38	—	83
Mr. A. Watson ...	37	42	—	79

* Winners of spoons.

THE LOSS OF THE "CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

The particulars of the loss of the unfortunate mail steamer that have come to hand this week go very far to show there were no valid reasons to blame Captain Ward, or the owners of the ship for having manned her with a Chinese crew. There had been a dense fog all night and on the morning of the accident, and a smooth sea, so that there were no breakers to give warning of hidden dangers, and the vessel was in charge of a pilot who had, no doubt, brought in hundreds of ships. The ship lay to until 4.30 a.m., and Quartermaster Lindstroem gave evidence that the lead had been carefully used while the ship was coming in, and that the soundings taken a moment before the ship struck showed a depth of water more than sufficient to float a vessel double the draught. Fog signals were given and every possible precaution taken against accident.

Under the circumstances it strikes one as particularly ungenerous that pilot Jordan, who was saved, should have endeavoured to throw the blame upon the captain who made no attempt to save himself, but bravely went down with his ship.

Jordan's story is to the effect that when the ship had entered the Heads the fogs enveloped her. He notified the captain that it was unsafe to proceed, but the latter ordered him to go ahead. The captain's order was obeyed, and therein the pilot confesses himself at fault, for from the moment he took the ship in hand his authority in all matters pertaining to her navigation was supreme, and he was responsible for her safety, and the lives of the people aboard her.

That there should be some confusion when the ship struck is very natural, and that would have happened on any ship, no matter how well drilled the crew might be, for the drill cannot extend to the passengers.

In any case, the pilot was in command of the ship and we cannot believe that a master of Capt. Ward's high standing and long experience would have acted contrary to the pilot's orders. On the contrary it seems that the ship was navigated with all possible care, and that the accident was due to causes that human foresight cannot render inoperative, although each case may offer suggestions how life might have been saved, and such suggestions reflect no discredit upon any one, but are in the interest of all concerned.

And the most primitive idea is generally best adapted to be carried into practice. Such an idea is suggested by the floating spar, and in many of the modern ships it has been adopted, amongst other appliances for saving life, in the shape of life rafts which can be quickly detached. Such life rafts can easily be stowed under the boats, also, when at sea, inside of the bulwarks, and, in various sizes, almost anywhere on board of a ship, and the aluminum cigar case suggests a very good pattern for life rafts made of light but strong air-tight steel tubes, on which appliance for the erection of low sheet steel bulwarks could easily be fixed, if considered necessary, on both sides, and in which compartments for water, provisions, lights, etc., could as easily be made. Each side, indeed, might, at the outset, be furnished with a low iron handrail which persons struggling in the water might grasp. The mere sight of such life rafts, and perhaps drill with them at the outset of a voyage, would inspire passengers with a degree of confidence that would prevent

any mad rush for the boats, and, in the case of an accident involving any possible danger to life, a number of those rafts might be launched at once and kept alongside of the ship with painters, so that even if a boat got swamped or capsized the people struggling in the sea could reach them.

A couple of thousand dollars would be sufficient to provide each ship with such life rafts, and it is evident that the ships provided with them would take the passenger trade from the ship without them. An advertisement to the effect that such and such a ship is provided with life rafts for say 300 or 500 passengers, or whatever the figure may be, and boats for so and so many passengers, would soon tell its story in the receipts.—*Eastern World*.

HONGKONG:

H.M.S. *Centurion*, with Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour on board, and H.M.S. *Alacrity* sailed for Shanghai on the 2nd inst., and were followed by H.M.S. *Whiting*. The U.S. despatch-vessel *Zafiro* left for Manila.

The Marty steamer *Hating* has been sold to the Canadian Pacific Company for a sum, it is rumoured, of \$270,000. She has been purchased for the Klondike trade, and will clear for Vancouver in a few days.

The British transport *Ula*, which is expected to leave for the North on the 9th inst. with a party of the Bengal Lancers, arrived in the harbour on Wednesday forenoon from Calcutta, which port she left on the 21st ult.

Among the departures by the *Empress of China* on Wednesday were Mr. G. Murray Bain, editor and part proprietor of the *China Mail*, who goes home on a year's holiday, after a very long stay in this Colony, with his wife and daughter.

Among the names of those who left for London on the 30th ult. by the steamer *Plassy* will be noticed the names of the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Attorney-General, with wife and family, Mr. H. C. Nicolle, Government Auditor, and Mr. R. T. Wright, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, with wife and child.

Among the passengers by the s.s. *Stuttgart*, which arrived in port on Tuesday from Shanghai, were Major Guendell, Lieuts. Blomeyer and Robert, Dr. Eggert, and Paymaster Tesch, and 300 men. They have been sent home by the German authorities at Peking as invalids, having been injured more or less in various brushes with the Chinese last year and since.

Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., Agents for the Yangtze Insurance Association, Ltd., informed us on Wednesday that they had received information that the Directors will recommend at the general meeting of shareholders the payment of a further dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. for previous years, and that \$50,000 be carried forward to the reserve fund.

An outbreak of fire occurred in a pawn-shop at 185, Queen's Road Central, at 9.30 a.m. on the 31st ult. It was confined to its place of origin, the second floor, which was almost completely burned out. The damage is not yet known, but the premises are fully insured, the Hamburg and Bremen Fire Insurance Company being involved to the extent of \$21,000 and the London and Lancashire to the extent of \$4,000—altogether \$25,000. At half-past one the same afternoon the Central Fire Brigade again turned out, this time to 161, Hollywood Road. The alarm proved to be a false one.

The reserve men of the Siege Train at Kowloon, to the number of 46, embarked on board the P. & O. s.s. *Plassy* on the 30th ult. at about nine o'clock. They will disembark at Colombo, and await another transport to take them to Cape Town. There will be left at Kowloon about 170 officers and men belonging to the 15th W. and 15th S.D.R.G.A., and six guns. Two of these, 9.45 in. were secured by the British Government from Austria just after the Kimberly investment, and they have never been in action yet. The Company, however, had the 4.7 in. guns at the relief of that town. The 9.45 in. guns have a powerful range of over 10,000 yards, and the highest point of their trajectory is about 20,000 feet. There are only two others in the service, and they are at present in Pretoria. The other four guns are 6 in. howitzers, and they were used at Paardeberg before the surrender of Cronje. Nothing definite is known as to the future movements of the troops now at Kowloon.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse has been appointed Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Next Monday, Easter Monday, will be observed as a holiday in the Government Departments.

The damage caused by the fire in a pawnshop at 185, Queen's Road Central, on the 31st ult. amounts to \$10,000.

Among the arrivals by the German mail steamer *Prinzess Irene* on Wednesday morning was the Hon. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge.

Friday and Saturday, 19th and 20th inst., have been fixed for the holding of the garrison sports at Happy Valley. Mounted competitions are included in the events.

On the 1st inst. the British gunboat *Linnet* arrived from Shanghai, and the British cruiser *Brisk* and the British surveying ship *Waterwitch* left for Hankow and Borneo respectively.

Mr. W. Chatham, Acting Director of Public Works, has been appointed President of the Sanitary Board. H.E. the Governor has accepted the resignations of Mr. J. Mackie and Dr. W. Hartigan as members of the Board. An election by the ratepayers of two new members will take place on Monday, the 15th instant.

Mr. G. J. W. King attended at the offices of the Public Works Department on the 1st inst. in pursuance of an advertised sale by public auction of three lots of Government land, two at Kowloon, and one at Barker Road. Only four Chinese landowners put in an appearance, and they being indisposed to offer bids for any of the properties, the sale was declared off.

The appointments are notified in the *Gazette* of Mr. Sercombe Smith to be Acting Colonial Secretary, during the absence from illness of the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.; of Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., to be Acting Attorney General, during the absence of the Hon. W. M. Goodman; and of Mr. B. E. Hanson to be Acting Local Auditor, during the absence of Mr. H. C. Nicolle.

Mr. G. P. Lammert on the 1st inst. offered for sale by public auction, at his offices in Duddell Street, the property known as 14, Cleverly Street, registered at the Land Office as Section B of Inland Lot No. 103. The annual proportion of Crown rent is \$10, and the monthly rentals, including taxes, amount to \$30. The area is about 528 square feet. Bidding started at \$3,000, and rose rapidly to \$9,100, at which price the lot was knocked down to Fun Fung.

The seaman Burke, of H.M.S. *Centurion*, who, it will be remembered, stole a watch and chain, a meerschaum pipe, and other articles from Mr. Cullinane, of the Naval Yard, has been tried by courtmartial, sentenced to thirty days imprisonment, and is then to be dismissed the service. The court regarded the offence as a serious one, for the prisoner was entertained by Mr. Cullinane, and given shelter at his home, when he got up in the middle of the night, rifled the pockets of his host and made off. The watch and chain were found a few hours later pawned with a Chinaman for \$7.

Inspector Duncan, a well-known and highly esteemed member of the Hongkong Police Force, who left for home by the P. & O. steamer *Plassy* on the 30th ult., was on the 29th made the recipient of a very handsome marble timepiece, and Mrs. Duncan of a set of silver serviette-rings. In making the presentation, which took place in the billiard room at the Central Police Station, Chief Inspector Mackie said the clock and serviette-rings had been subscribed for by the European members of the Force as souvenirs of appreciation of Inspector Duncan's twenty-two years' service in the colony, during which long period he had performed his duties to the satisfaction of those set in authority over him, and had treated with justice those under him. Mr. Mackie concluded by wishing Inspector Duncan every enjoyment during his well-earned holiday. In reply, Inspector Duncan expressed his sincere thanks for the gifts and for the flattering allusions made by Chief Inspector Mackie. He was sorry on the whole at leaving Hongkong, and would ever remember with pleasure the associations he had formed whilst serving on its Police Force. Inspector Duncan, who has completed altogether twenty-five years' service with the police, is going home on a year's leave, at the end of which, we understand, it is his intention to retire on pension.

Captain M. W. Slade, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been granted seven months' leave of absence.

Mr. Jabez Potts, who has just completed a three years' engagement on the reporting staff of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, was on the 2nd inst. presented, on behalf of the staff, with a handsome silver tea-set as a souvenir of his stay in the colony. The usual good wishes were exchanged. Mr. Potts left on the 3rd inst. by the *Stuttgart* for England.

The cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony last week were:—plague, 14 (12 in Victoria), with 10 deaths; enteric fever, 2 (one European on Peak, one Chinese found dead in Harbour); small-pox 13 (11 in Victoria), with 13 deaths. The small-pox sufferers were: one European from H. M. S. *Ocean*, 11 Chinese, and one Manilaman.

Mr. Philip Wallace Goldring was admitted to practice as an attorney proctor at the Supreme Court on the 2nd inst. The usual affidavit of application was made by Mr. Deacon of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings, who have engaged Mr. Goldring as an assistant solicitor. He was article to Messrs. Goldring and Philips, of 20, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C., and admitted to the roll at the Incorporated Law Society on January 29th last. Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) wished the applicant every success.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dr. G. N. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent at Peking, arrived at Shanghai from the North on the 20th ult.

The *Talbot*, cruiser, was to be commissioned at Devonport this month to relieve the *Bona-venture*, cruiser, Captain C. J. G. Sawle, on the China Station.

It is understood at Penang that a report has been called for, from the Education Department, dealing with the educational system of the Straits Settlements.

According to the *Dépêche Coloniale*, M. Doumer, Governor General of Indo-China, will remain in France for five or six months. M. Doumer will then return to Indo-China in order to continue the work of administrative and financial unification and to superintend the carrying out of a vast public works scheme.

A football tournament at Peking at the end of February received entries from the New South Wales Naval Contingent, 7th Rajputs, Royal Engineers, 26th Baluchis, Medical Services, 24th Punjab Infantry, 1st Sikhs, Headquarter Staff, 12th Field Battery, R. A., and the British Legation. The final tie was between the 24th Punjab Infantry and the 1st Sikhs, the former winning by 2 goals to 1.

Prince Henri d'Orléans, son of the Duc de Chartres, and consequently cousin of the Duc d'Orléans, is starting for a long journey in the Far East. He intends to come first to China, where, profiting by the presence of the Allied troops, he will explore the regions occupied by them. Thence he will proceed to Corea, and later on visit Japan. His travels will probably occupy twelve or fifteen months, of which at least three will be spent in Japan.

The following notes are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 23rd ult.:—The weather continues unsettled but the rain has not set in with the regularity usual at this season.—Foochow wears an almost deserted look now so many have left for up-country. We are glad to note that all continues quiet and work is being resumed on the various mission stations.—The French cruiser *Chasseloup Laubat* has left Pagoda. There are now H.M.S. *Britomart* and H.I.R.M. *Mandjour* lying at the Anchorage. Commander Walter expects to leave for home during the coming week, as his relief on the *Britomart* is due to arrive by the *Haiching*.—Doubtless very general regret will be felt that Mr. C. A. Pennington has received instructions to leave this place shortly for Swatow. During his stay here he has been good enough to undertake several duties on behalf of the community and his departure will consequently be felt in many quarters. We would mention specially the steady interest he has taken in the Church choir and organ.—Hockey has been played with much spirit during the week and in spite of its being rather late in the season considerable numbers of players turn up to take part in the games.

Among the most recently elected Fellows of the Royal Colonial Institute were Messrs. William Adamson, C.M.G., and John Finlayson (Straits Settlements).

The Shanghai papers look forward to a visit this month to Shanghai of Mr. Leo Marsh, who proposes to give a concert in the Lyceum Theatre there on the 16th inst.

The following telegram has been sent from Peking to the *North American Review*, New York:—"Peking Missionary Association demands public retraction gross libel against Amen: utterly false. (Sd.) Secretary."

Notification has been received in Singapore, from the War Office, that the order for Major-General J. B. B. Dickson, C.B., to resume command of the troops, Straits Settlements, has been cancelled.

The crew of the steamer *Tan Auco*, which was reported in these columns as having gone ashore on the Pratas shoal, arrived in Hongkong on the 29th ult. by the *Saturn*, it being necessary to leave the vessel in consequence of her dangerous condition.

According to the *P. & T. Times*, the recently executed Chi Chien, and Hsu Shen-yeh were sent away from the Japanese quarter on the day of their execution in full official dress, but labelled on their backs with large yellow papers. "Chi Chien, President Board of Ceremonies, Boxer Chief," and "Hsu Shen-yeh, Vice President Board of Punishments, Boxer chief." They were deprived of their official robes and hats by the German soldiers when they reached the execution ground and are said to have appeared almost in a state of collapse. About twenty-five photographs were taken of the execution.

The remains of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men who fell in the defence and relief of Peking, and were temporarily buried in the British Legation grounds, were removed to the Cemetery outside the South-west corner of the Tartar City, Peking, on the 9th ult. The 12th Battery, R. F. A., provided gun-carriages and waggons and one squadron of the 16th Bengal Lancers escorted the remains to the Cemetery, while the New South Wales Naval Contingent provided a guard, and the Pipers of the Baluchistan Regiment played a "Lament" as the funeral cortege moved off. There was no firing party, but every officer not on duty was present and the ceremony is reported to have been most imposing.

When in the scramble for concessions in China, Russia secured the preliminary right for a line from Peking to the westwards, it was obvious that this was to be a link for a line through Kashgaria. The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg* now speaks openly of the project drawn up by M. Yougovitch for the purpose of extending the Central Asian Railway from Andijan in an easterly direction into Kashgaria, across Chinese Turkestan, and thence to Peking. The route to be followed by this projected line of railway will be mainly along the 41st degree of Latitude N. In connection with the projected railway from Kiakhta to Peking across the desert of Gobi or Shamo it is alleged by the authorities that this new line must be made to take the place of the section of the Great Siberian Railway running between Stretensk and Khabarovsk, as the region traversed by this section along the Amur is of a very marshy character.

We mentioned some time ago that a public meeting was to be held, under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society, on "Women's Work in China." The meeting was held on the 28th February at Queen's Hall, London, when Colonel R. Williams, M.P., who presided, said the European loss, terrible as it was, had been measured by hundreds; the Chinese loss had been measured, it was feared, by almost tens of thousands, if not of lives laid down, of people who had seen their homes broken up, who had suffered in body themselves, and in some cases had lost all they had. It was sometimes urged against the missionary societies that they ought not to send out unmarried ladies to the mission field. There was no objection to their going if they used that without which no missionary ought to go anywhere—sanctified commonsense. They were confident that what had happened in China would only result in the furtherance of the Gospel cause. From this it seems that the Society is determined to learn nothing from the lesson of last year.

The marriage of the Marchioness of Ailesbury to Mr. D. O. Webster took place at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 29th ult., the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., performing the ceremony.

A Soochow correspondent of the Shanghai *Supao* states that Governor Nieh has telegraphed to Viceroy Lin asking that a joint memorial be sent to Hsian requesting that a new Plenipotentiary be appointed to treat with Russia about Manchuria.

Since the 18th ult., according to Japanese telegrams, the Foreign Ministers have been in session every day, the indemnity question being under discussion. It is not yet known whether or not the recommendation of the Indemnity Committee will be accepted.

The bill for the construction of a Government Steel Foundry in Kure, which was passed by the Japanese House of Representatives, was thrown out by the Peers, notwithstanding a long speech by Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of the Navy, in support of the measure.

From papers to hand by the last mail we learn that Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown solicitor, practising in this colony, was married in February in Aberdare, Wales, whilst home on holiday, to Miss Maud Edwards, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Richard Edwards, J. P., of Fedwhir.

In connection with a forthcoming auction sale of land at Masampo, the Korean Government has engaged a civil engineer to map out the said land, which is in the general foreign settlement. The engineer is expected at Masampo already, but two or three months must elapse before his work is completed.

H. M. S. *Pigmy* has arrived at Singapore from Bangkok and early this month proceeds to Padang to make advance arrangements for the Government astronomical party that is coming out from home to observe the forthcoming total eclipse of the sun on the 18th May. H.M.S. *Algerine* will probably convey the astronomical party from Singapore to Sumatra.

There are two sailing vessels laden with case oil at present on their journey from New York to Hongkong. They are the *Sachem* and the *Saranac*, and they left Sandy Hook on the 5th and 19th October respectively. Recent advices report both vessels as having passed St. Helena on December 15th and January 5th respectively.

The following items occur in the *P. & T. Times* of the 16th ult.:—Two Chinese engaged in attending to their ancestors' graves were fired on and killed by foreign soldiers in one of the suburbs of the City a few days ago.—Rumours have continued to reach us that the anti-foreign feeling in Hsian is going strong, and forces are being continually drilled and armed. The enormous number of men qualifying to act as an "Imperial guard" appears out of all proportion, and we believe treacherous intentions are being secretly matured while "peace, perfect peace" negotiations proceed.—On Friday night within the East Gate in the district called Chao-chang-nan, about twenty Chinese armed with swords went to the house of a wealthy Chinaman, and having by disguising their speech made the inmates believe they were foreign soldiers, and open the door, intimidated the household, cleared off all the valuables and decamped. Some Italians coming down the street saw them making off and managed to arrest one.

Mr. L. W. Hilles, of the firm of Bagnall and Hilles, electricians, of Yokohama and Singapore, passed through here last week on his way North, and stayed over one steamer so as to allow the carrying out of certain negotiations with one or two trading firms in the colony for the introduction of the firm's latest designs in electric installations. In the course of an interview with a *Daily Press* representative, Mr. Hilles said that the present electric system at Manila, which the firm put in prior to the American occupation, is to be doubled, and that the plant at Tanjong Pagar, Singapore, which was installed nearly three years ago, is to be increased by an additional service of 250,000 candle power. Regarding the electric street service in Hongkong, Mr. Hilles said he was favourably impressed with its brilliancy and thought that in comparison with other town installations in the East and Far East it was a thoroughly good system, and one which Hongkong residents should be proud of. Mr. Hilles left by the P. & O. steamer *Sobraon* for Shanghai on Sunday.

On the morning of the 28th ult. the new Japanese battleship *Hatsuse* arrived at Singapore.

Mr. E. C. Wilson, H.B.M. Consul at Chungking, according to the *Mercury*, is about to proceed to Chengtu, the capital of Szechuen.

The *Jiji* publishes a telegram from Sasebo to the effect that the manoeuvres of the Japanese standing squadron, which were to be held on or about the 1st ult., have been postponed until this month.

A Bangkok paper announces the approaching retirement of Mr. James McCarthy, F.R.G.S., Supt. Royal Surveys in Siam. He leaves for home in May next, and retires, it is said, on a pension of 450 ticals a month.

The Penang Chinese Recreation Club football and tennis team has left Penang on a visit to Singapore. Penang Chinese may claim the honour of having taken the lead in sending an athletic team from one settlement to the other.

From a Macao correspondent we learn that the *fan-tan* monopoly was put up for auction on Wednesday and realised the substantial sum of \$387,500—a large increase on the old price of \$150,000. Besides this, the monopolists have to pay 2½ per cent. on the sum annually to the Municipal Chamber.

Hsiangyang, in Hupeh, to which the Imperial Court according to one report has been thinking of going, has so decayed that it is a small wilderness, composed of about three streets, a dead-and-alive place with few inhabitants. All the business is done at the neighbouring market place of Fancheng, which is on the river Han. The distance of Hsiangyang by water from Hankow is 36 miles.

The Ministers of the Colonies and Public Instruction have obtained the French President's signature to a decree for the organisation of a French school in the Far East. This institution, which is to be placed under the control of the Governor of Indo-China, will devote itself to archaeological and philological research in Indo-China, and study the neighbouring regions and the conditions of life in those districts. The students will be sent to the school for one year, with the option of extending their studies beyond that term.

The *Japan Advertiser* states that the sugar merchants in Bakan have ordered from Hongkong 140,000 bales of sugar under a contract that the goods arrive in Japan by the end of the current month. Of this 140,000 bales, which are valued at 1,400,000 yen, and of which 80,000 have already arrived, 40,000 bales represent the usual annual amount of import, the remaining 100,000 bales being those ordered in anticipation of the proposed taxation on imported sugar. It is said that the loss to be sustained by Yokohama sugar merchants may exceed three million yen should the sugar tax fail to become law this year.

The Ichang correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* wrote on the 21st ult.:—"In the beginning of this week six boats left with missionaries for the west. Several of the missionaries were ladies. Many of them wished to break the boat journey at Wansien and proceed overland to the north-west parts of Szechuen. In the present very unsettled state of affairs it seems very unwise and foolhardy, for ladies especially, to attempt such overland journeys. We were glad to hear that our Consul had advised carefulness and proposed the ladies going on to Chungking in the meantime." "Unwise and foolhardy" is rather a weak expression for the conduct alluded to.

The *Singapore Free Press* understands, on good authority, that nine transports have been chartered for Hongkong to bring back the troops not further required. Our readers will remember that we stated this to be the case some weeks ago, but the number of transports which we mentioned was ten. Among the first contingent to return will be the Siege Train, which goes back to England. The Hongkong Regiment is not to be kept at Hongkong but up north, and will be ultimately disbanded, absorbing most of the men into other battalions in the Indian army. The Welsh Fusiliers will be divided, half a battalion at Peking or Tientsin, and one headquarter half battalion at Hongkong. Our Straits contemporary hears that a battalion of the Devonshire Regiment from South Africa is to come to Hongkong in relief of the Fusiliers.

From Shanghai comes yet another version of the indemnity proposed—750 million taels, in fifty annual instalments of twenty-five million taels each.

The U.S. army transport *Sheridan* now en route from the States for Manila with the 1st Batt. 26th Infantry, and details, will steam to Hongkong, after disembarkation of the troops, for docking and necessary repairs.

A Tientsin telegram of the 18th inst. to the *Asahi* says:—"Boxers have risen in arms in Yegen and Alsue districts, in the dominion of a Mongolian Chief who is father-in-law of Prince Tuan, and have murdered missionaries, and set fire to the churches. They are also persecuting the native converts. The atrocities committed are reported to be of a far more brutal character than those perpetrated in Chihli last year."

In connection with the shooting of Mr. A. Barros, purser of the steamship *Powan*, at Canton on the 16th inst., it is reported that both the British and the Portuguese Consuls have taken the matter up, and that the Viceroy, after hearing their representations, proceeded to offer a reward of \$500 for the arrest of the culprit, as well as \$200 for any information which might lead to his arrest. Mr. Barros, we are glad to learn, is progressing favourably.

The Hongkong correspondent of the *Naval and Military Record*, writing of the conclusion of the *Barfleur* incident at this port, says:—"It is hoped that a different method of administering naval discipline (which is at the root of the *Barfleur* scandal) will prevent a repetition of such deplorable conduct as a means of drawing attention to grievances, real or supposed."

The *N.-C. Daily News* records that a sad accident occurred last Saturday night at the C. M. Central Wharf, Shanghai, by which Capt. George Graham lost his life. It seems that the deceased gentleman whilst going on board his tow-boat missed his footing and fell into the water. Captain McCracken, who had just left him, on hearing his cry for help, rushed back and succeeded in rescuing him, but, though Captain Graham spoke, he shortly afterwards succumbed, owing probably to the shock of the immersion.

The loot which France is returning to China is being forwarded in the transport *Vinh-long*, now on her way out. The *Vinh-long* is afterwards to serve as a floating hospital for the French expeditionary corps. On her journey the *Vinh-long* on the 18th inst. ran badly aground on a coral reef off Pulo Sambu. The French Consul at Singapore was informed immediately, and he put off at once for the vessel with tugs and lighters belonging to the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company, and the task of floating her was proceeded with.

A greater portion of the allied forces was expected to be withdrawn from North China soon after the opening of the Gulf of Pechili, which is usually blockaded with ice during the winter months. The waters are now free to navigation, and a number of French and German transports have already assembled at Taku for the purpose of embarking their respective troops. It is, however, reported that the Powers have decided to abandon the withdrawal of troops, owing to the hitch in the peace negotiations, and also to the Russo-Chinese compact. Under these circumstances, the date of General Waldersee's departure from China has not yet been decided upon, but it is certain, the *Jiji* says, that the General will visit this country before proceeding home.—*Nagasaki Press*.

On the 15th inst. Mr. Robert Love, manager of Harnston's Circus, and an employee were brought up before Judge Bishop at Manila, and fined \$50 and \$5 respectively for preventing the entrance of some native policemen into the Circus. Mr. Love explains that he had previously requested that no native police be sent to the theatre, as they were not needed, the force of American police being quite sufficient to keep order. When the native police arrived, however, he asked them to station themselves outside and regulate the traffic and the passage of the vehicles. When the native lieutenant arrived he felt abused that his men should be kept outside, and set about securing them an entrance. Mr. Sands, the employee, then obeyed his instructions, and prevented the men's entrance. In regard to the "colour line," Mr. Love says it does not exist, as the natives may go freely to any part of the house.

The text of the Convention with Japan for Protection of Estates of Deceased Persons, of which the ratifications were exchanged at Tokyo on the 25th October last, is published in the *Gazette*.

The King has been pleased to confer the Decoration of the Royal Red Cross upon Miss Marian Lambert, of the Church of England Mission; Sister Jessie Molynux Ransome, Miss Lillie Emma Saville, M.D., London Mission; and Miss Abbie Goodrich Chapin, in recognition of their services at the International Hospital during the siege of the Legations at Peking.

In anticipation of the increased dues on sugar imported into Japan being levied in April, about 1,500,000 bags, valued at 15,000,000 yen, have already been imported. It now appears that the Japanese Government has decided, with the approval of the Imperial Diet, to put the increased taxation in force in October next; but before that date arrives, it is expected there will be in Japan enough sugar to meet the home demand for at least three years.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPBELL.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—Still no arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—The prices are further advancing, holders being firm. Quotations are:—
 Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.65 to \$8.68 per cwt.
 do. " 2, White..... 7.85 to 7.90 "
 Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 5.85 to 5.90 "
 do. " 2, Brown ... 5.65 to 5.70 "
 Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.52 to 8.53 "
 do. " 1, White..... 7.70 to 7.75 "
 Swatow, No. 1, Brown ... 5.72 to 5.78 "
 do. " 2, Brown ... 5.60 to 5.65 "
 Foochow Sugar Candy.....12.68 to 12.72 "
 Shekloong "11.80 to 11.85 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Doric*, sailed on the 19th March. For San Francisco:—11 cases silk. For Panama:—9 cases silk. For Callao:—3 cases silk. For New York:—1 case silk, 60 bales raw silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Banca*, sailed on the 21st March. For London:—75 bales waste silk opt. Manchester, 80 bales waste silk opt. Goolo, 7 cases cigars from Manila, 100 pkgs. tea from Macao, 45 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases Chinaware, 9 cases copperware, 3 cases gongs, 2 bales carpets, 1 case books, 9 cases effects, 1 case silverware, 5 cases curios and embdy., 8 cases preserves. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Glasgow:—5 cases blackwoodware.

Per steamer *Albenga*, sailed on the 24th Mar. For New York:—7 cases fans, 9 cases sundries, 11 bales canes, 25 cases aniseed, 32 cases paper 42 cases cassia, 67 cases Chinaware, 80 cases essential oil, 81 cases woodware, 100 bales broken cassia, 126 cases joss sticks, 167 pkgs. preserves, 181 cases nut oil, 409 pkgs. rattanware, 426 cases blackwoodware, 10,415 pkgs. fire crackers.

Per steamer *Annam*, sailed on the 25th March. For Marseilles:—166 bales raw silk 25 cases silk, 50 bales waste silk, 25 cases staraniseed. For Lyons:—260 bales raw silk. For London:—100 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Nippon Maru*, sailed on the 28th March. For San Francisco:—53 pkgs. tea, 9 cases silk. For Acajuha:—1 case silk. For New York:—1 case silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Plassy*, sailed on the 30th March. For London:—345 bales pierced cocoons, 140 bales waste silk opt. Manchester, 70 bales waste silk opt. Goolo, 5 bales raw silk, 3 cases silks, 15 cases cigars from Manila, 3 cases cigars, 150 cases dry ginger, 10 cases canes, 55 rolls mats, 41 cases woodware, 3 cases feathers, 1 case curios, 8 cases effects, 2 cases Chinaware, 18 cases sundries. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—43 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—135 bales raw silk.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—A further decline in prices has been reported, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.05 to 2.70
" Round, Good quality	2.81 to 2.82
" Long	3.00 to 3.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.85 to 2.90
" Garden, " No. 1	3.20 to 3.25
" White.....	3.70 to 3.75
" Fine Cargo	3.98 to 4.00

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 1,550 bales No. 10 at \$81 to \$86; 0, 450 bales No. 12 at \$87.50 to \$92, 250 bales No. 16 at \$95.00 to \$97, 1,250 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$109. *Gray Shirtings*: 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$3.

Metals.—*Leads*: 840 piculs new mark at \$50.

COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$75.00 to \$108.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.40 to 2.50
8½ lbs.	2.80 to 3.50
9 to 10 lbs.	3.60 to 4.40
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.50 to 2.75
58 to 60 "	3.15 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.20 to 5.50
Fine.....	5.10 to 7.75
Book-folds.....	4.30 to 6.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.50
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 ")	1.90 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.....	1.90 to 2.15
7lbs. (32 ")	2.75 to 3.60
8 to 8½ oz., (36 in.).....	2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.20 to 7.00

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.55 to 5.00
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Brocades—Dyed..... — to —

Chintzes—Assorted..... 0.08½ to 0.17

Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.22½ to 0.60

Velveteens—18 in. 0.20 to 0.22½

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk..... 0.36 to 2.50

WOOLENS.—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops..... 0.80 to 1.50

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths..... 1.25 to 2.50

Long Ells—Scarlet..... 6.40 to 10.00

Assorted..... 6.50 to 10.10

Camlets—Assorted..... 12.50 to 32.00

METALS.—

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 8.00 to 20.00

Assorted } 8.50 to 10.00

Orleans—Plain 8.50 to 10.00

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 4.00 to 18.00

Iron—Nail Rod 4.00 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)..... 4.00 to —

Swedish Bar 6.50 to —

Small Round Rod 4.50 to —

Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 5.25 to —

Wire 15/25..... 8.00 to —

Old Wire Rope..... 2.50 to —

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop..... 8.75 to —

Australian 8.25 to —

Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

New Chops, 14/20 oz. — to —

Composition Nails..... 63.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs..... 41.00 to —

Tin..... 69.00 to —

Tin-Plates 6.50 to —

Steel ½ to ½ 5.25 to —

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

per cwt. case

per box.

most of the stocks in request are very firmly held, and the volume of business done has not in the circumstances been so large as would otherwise have been the case.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have improved their position, and after sales at 354 per cent. premium close firm at 355 per cent. premium. The London rate is £60. There is no change to report in Nationals.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are in request at \$270. China Traders have been placed at \$54 and \$55. North Chinas can be obtained at \$182½. Yangtszes have been negotiated at various rates up to \$130 and now close quiet at \$125. Cantons are wanted at \$155.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have come strongly into favour and can be placed at \$310. China Fires have experienced a sharp rise, and after sales at \$78 rising to \$81½ are still in request at \$82.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macacs have been placed in small lots at \$33 and further shares are obtainable at the rate. Indo-Chinas have increased in favour and are in strong request at \$120 cash. Sales for June are reported at \$124. China Manilas are unchanged at quotations. Douglasses have weakened and have sellers at \$48. Star Ferries have advanced to \$22 and \$7½ for the old and new shares respectively and have further buyers at the quotations. Shells are now obtainable at £3.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars advanced rapidly in favour up to \$135 cash, at which sales were effected, but at the close are somewhat easier with sellers at \$136. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms are quiet at quotations. Charbonnages have weakened to \$300, at which there are sellers. Raubs are again in demand and have buyers at \$38.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have still further improved their position and can be placed at \$241 per new share of \$50 paid up, equal to a shade under 672 per cent. premium on the old basis. The new scrip is expected to be ready in a few days. Very little business in this stock is reported owing to the unwillingness of holders to sell. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's shares have been placed at from \$98 to \$101 for cash and close with further buyers at \$102. Wanchais continue in request at \$63. New Amoy Docks are obtainable at \$22 ex the dividend of \$2.36 paid on the last instant.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company's shares have been placed in fair lines at \$100 to \$201 for cash and further shares are obtainable at the latter rate. Sales for July at \$210 are also reported. West Points and Kowloon Lands are quiet at quotations. Hongkong Hotels have increased in favour and are wanted at \$12½. Humphreys Estates are obtainable at \$13 and sales have been effected at this rate. Oriente Hotel's have sellers at \$50.

COTTON MILLS.—No changes to report except in Hongkong Cottons, which are now obtainable at \$8.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements were booked in the early part of the week at \$20, but on it becoming known that only 8 per cent. dividend instead of 10 per cent. which was expected would be paid, the rate gradually declined to \$18½, at which rate shares are now obtainable. China Borneos have been placed at \$37 and \$38, and \$39 would now be paid for further parcels. A. S. Watson and Co.'s stock has been sold at \$16½ and is now in request at \$17. Ices have improved and are wanted at \$163. United Asbestos shares are wanted at \$8½. Providents can be had at \$9½.

MEMOS.—Punjom Mining Co., Limited, ordinary general meeting on the 8th April. China Borneo Co., Limited, ordinary general meeting on the 13th April. Green Island Cement Co., Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 3th April, transfer books closing from the 6th to the 13th instant. Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, annual meeting on the 16th April, transfer books closing from the 9th to the 16th instant.

VERNON & SMYTH'S SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—The Easter holidays commencing to-morrow necessitate our printing a day earlier than usual. Since our last report a good general demand has been experienced but

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID-UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ 355 p. ct. prem. = \$568½, buyers L'don, £60.
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$26½, buyers
B. Shares	28	\$28½.
Foun. Shares...	21	\$15, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	21	\$1.
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20.
China Light & Power) Co., Ltd.	\$20	20, nominal
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$6½, sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$136, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra, Limited.	\$500	\$1,500, buyers
La Commercial, Ltd.	\$500	\$850, buyers
Hensiana, Limited...	\$100	\$100, sellers
La Favorita, Ltd. ...	\$500	\$750, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 44, sales
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 45.
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 55.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Hongkong	\$100	\$8, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$7, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$55, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$18½, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$130, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$13, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$200, buyers
Hk. Steam Water) boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$7.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$120, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$163, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$102, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$157½.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$241, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$155, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$82, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$55, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$310, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 182½.
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$270, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$125.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$201, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$13, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28.
West Point Building	\$50	\$49.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$39, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$300, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	nominal.
Do. Preference ...	\$1	40 cents
Jolebu	\$5	\$5.
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	nominal.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$14, sellers
Do. B.	\$4½	\$5 cents, sellers
Punjom	\$9	\$4.50.
Do. Preference ...	\$1	\$1.20.
Raubs	18	\$38, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$22, ex div., sellers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$80, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$60, ex div., sellers
China Mutual Pref.	\$20	\$36, ex div., buys.
China Ordinary	\$10	\$12.
Do.	\$10	\$12.
Do.	25	\$7.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$48, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$33, sales
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$120, buyers
Shell Transport and) Trading Co.	21	\$3, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$22, buyers
Tehrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$7½, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$3, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$20.
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	\$63, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$104, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$17, buyers
Universal Trading) Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$5.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 4th April.

ON LONDON.—EXCHANGE.

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.43½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.48

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.98
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight	48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145½
Bank, on demand	145½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	145½
Bank, on demand	145½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	4½ p.c. pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	3½ p.c. pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1 p.c. pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	116½
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	2½ p.c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	2 p.c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	6½
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

BAR SILVER per oz.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Idomenus (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Ajax (str.), Bombay (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.), Candia (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tantalus (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Ernest Simons (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.), Candia (str.), Manchuria (str.), Bombay (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Konig Albert (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Bamberg (str.), Sibiria (str.), Manchuria (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Tartar (str.), Idzumi Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), America Maru (str.), City of Peking (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Gymeric (str.).

FOR SAN DIEGO.—Bergenhuis (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

March—

ARRIVALS.

30, Zafiro, U.S. despatch-boat, from Manila.
 30, L. J. Kenny, Amr. schr., from Panape.
 30, Saxonia, German str., from Hamburg.
 30, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 30, Esang, British str., from Wuhu.
 30, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
 30, Clavering, British str., from Port Natal.
 30, Elsa, German str., from Hongay.
 30, Kong Beng, German str., from Bangkok.
 30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 30, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 31, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 31, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 31, Salahadji, Dutch str., from Langkat.
 31, Stentor, British str., from Shanghai.
 31, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
 31, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 31, Luxon, Amr. schr., from Port Townsend.
 31, Tainan, British str., from Australia.
 31, Melpomene, Austrian str., from Shanghai.

April—

1, Benledi, British str., from London.
 1, Marburg, German str., from Moji.
 1, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Akashi Maru, Jap. str., from Taiwanfoo.
 1, Apanrade, German str., from Hoihow.
 1, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.
 1, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 1, Chansang, British str., from Bangkok.
 1, Takang, British str., from Bangkok.
 1, Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.
 1, Reynolds, British str., from Mororan.
 1, Lianet, British gunboat, from Shanghai.
 1, Pyrrhus, British str., from Liverpool.

2, Gymeric, British str., from Foochow.
 2, Germania, German str., from Sourabaya.
 2, Macduff, British str., from Moji.
 2, Stuttgart, German str., from Yokohama.
 2, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 2, Antenor, British str., from Liverpool.
 2, Chihli, British str., from Chinkiang.
 2, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Swatow.
 2, Shantung, British str., from Hongay.
 2, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 3, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
 3, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 3, Cassius, German str., from Samarang.
 3, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 3, Kwongsang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 3, Ula, British transport, from Calcutta.
 3, Princess Irene, German str., from Bremen.
 3, Etruria, British str., from Chinkiang.
 3, Hailoong, British str., from Haiphong.
 3, President, British bark, from Rajang.
 3, Compania de Filipina, Amr. str., from Cebu.
 3, Foochow, British str., from Canton.
 3, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 4, Hansa, German cr., from Taintan.
 4, Savoia, German str., from Shanghai.
 4, Kweiyang, British str., from Iloilo.
 4, Paoting, British str., from Shanghai.
 4, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 4, Babelsberg, German str., from Wuhu.
 4, Sarnia, German str., from Moji.
 4, Bombay, British str., from Foochow.
 4, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 4, Chingtu, British str., from Taku.
 4, Phra C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.
 4, Carthage, British hosp. sh., from W'haiwei.
 4, Rosario, British sloop, from Weihaiwei.
 4, Coptic, British str., from San Francisco.
 4, Progress, German str., from Saigon.
 4, Tartar, British str., from Tacoma.
 4, Styx, French cruiser, from Canton.

March—

DEPARTURES.

29, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
 29, Pompey, Amr. str., for Manila.
 30, Plassy, British str., for Europe.
 30, M. Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Hsieh Ho, German str., for Chinkiang.
 30, Tailee, German str., for Swatow.
 30, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
 30, Benclutha, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 30, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Esang, British str., for Canton.
 31, Sobraon, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 31, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 31, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 31, Elsa, German str., for Canton.
 31, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 31, Quarta, German str., for Amoy.

April—

1, Brisk, British cruiser, for Hankow.
 1, Waterwitch, British s.v., for B rneo.
 1, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Milos, German str., for Hongay.
 1, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 1, Centurion, British flagship, for Shanghai.
 2, Alacrity, British d.v., for Shanghai.
 2, Whiting, British torpedo-boat destroyer, for Shanghai.
 2, Zafiro, U.S. des. ves., for Manila.
 2, Saxonia, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Holstein, German str., for Hoihow.
 2, Sandakan, German str., for Kudat.
 2, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
 2, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
 2, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Stentor, British str., for London.
 2, Salahadji, Dutch str., for Swatow.
 2, Elita Nossack, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Melpomene, Austrian str., for Bombay.
 2, Freiburg, German str., for Hamburg.
 3, Empress of China, Brit. str., for Vancouver.
 3, Stuttgart, German str., for Europe.
 3, Marberg, German str., for Hamburg.
 3, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., for Singapore.
 3, Nivelle, British 4-m. bark, for Astoria.
 3, Akashi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 3, Hue, French str., for Kwong-chow-wan.
 3, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 3, Tainan, British str., for Hongay.
 3, Benledi, British str., for Nagasaki.
 3, Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
 3, Pyrrhus, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Pratas Shoal.

- 3, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
- 3, Sevastopol, Russian battleship, for N'saki.
- 3, Flandria, German str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Prinzess Irene, German str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.
- 4, Fushun, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Antenor, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Etruria, British str., for Canton.
- 4, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
- 4, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
- 4, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sobraon*, from Hongkong, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Binney, Lieut. Woolcombe, Capt. C. J. Baker, Messrs. Curtis, R. Croxson, Mrs. Tregar, Mr. Reed, Mrs. Besch, Messrs. H. and J. Besch; from Marseilles, Dr. E. L. Morgan and Miss Hartland; from Brindisi, Mrs. and Miss McGoodwin; from Bombay, Capt. R. McCandlish, Mr. B. A. Harvey, Capt. and Mrs. J. R. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. I. F. Kollner, Rev. L. M. Haslope, Messrs. A. Cunningham, Abram, Moossa, and Master Allarakhia; from Colombo, Mr. C. Bair, Mr. and Mrs. Creasy, Mr. and Mrs. Bilderbeck; from Penang, Messrs. D. J. Berwick, J. J. Phillips; from Singapore, Mr. M. Mess, Mr. and Mrs. P. Harrison, Messrs. Havemeyer, J. W. Barney, A. Oliver, Chas. Bell and W. M. A. Beavis; from Shanghai, from London, Messrs. A. Sinclair, W. H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Thorley, Messrs. H. E. A. Child and E. H. Child; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Anger, Mrs. Morris and infant, Mrs. Watson, and Mr. H. Emanuel; via India, Mrs. Wilkes, Misses Thomson and Neilson; from Ismailia, Miss Holden; from Bombay, Mr. S. J. Colin, Mrs. A. H. Porter, Lieut. J. R. Bell and Capt. Bishop; from Calcutta, Messrs. Heath, Marshall, Count and Countess de Boury de Boyers and Rev. Armitage; from Singapore, Messrs. O'Connor, A. Hodge and L. D. Hilles; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. Lewis Peck; from Marseilles, Messrs. H. M. Arnould and P. W. Cartwright, from Ismailia, Messrs. H. and W. L. Hildburgh.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Comdr. Braunesreuther, Messrs. Kennedy, Osorio, Dr. Altmann, Messrs. Aliguancin, Reyes, Masters Bara and Osorio, Messrs. Goryales, Santos, Felcanis and Seguiya and son.

Per *Tsinan*, from Australia, &c., Mrs. F. Smyth, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Ward, Dr. May, and Messrs. Perez, Stieblis and Herring.

Per *Taisang*, from Shanghai, &c., Major

Per *Stuttgart*, from Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. R. M. Stirling and J. B. Ellard; from Kobe, Mr. O. Meyer and Capt. Schulz; from Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss J. Arnhold, Messrs. C. Heermann, H. A. Manning, St. J. McLaughlin, Brewster Cameron, J. Brosch, Jessen, Fr. McCauly, D. Ellis, and Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Anderson.

Per *Arratoon Apar*, from Calcutta, Mrs. Vanquelin and child, Rev. Dr. Ewing, Mrs. A. B. Caldwell and two children, Miss M. A. Lawrence, Miss E. Gardon, Mr. and Mrs. Newing and child, Miss Sunder, Mr. Azabeg, Capt. J. E. Haselton, Miss Haselton, Lieut. F. W. Huddleston, R.I.M., Messrs. E. A. S. Bell and G. W. Hope; from Penang, Mrs. Leykum, Misses McIntyre (two), Mr. G. Davidson, and Capt. H. B. de Hamel; from Singapore, Messrs. Uardin, K. Murkerjee, S. Guha, Sham Dosa, and Private Ansell, R.W.F.

Per *Prinzess Irene*, from Hongkong, from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Orchar, and Mr. Rob. C. Dixon; from Genoa, Messrs. Alfred Wise, E. A. Weber, Miss L. Boyle, Messrs. G. Schonichen, K. Siebler, Miss E. Palm, and Mr. P. Geldmacher; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. M. Bird and Mr. D. O. Wickham; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Matthews, Mrs. Tribe, Messrs. Boyle and Lakura; for Shanghai, from Bremen, Miss M. Dalgaard, Messrs. F. B. Petersen, E. Schuler, and O. Hanisch; from Antwerp, Mr. E. V. Siven; from Southampton, Corv. Capt. Bachmann, Messrs. F. H. Stockton, A. Kannengieser, W. Kollé, Mrs. Riemann, Messrs. Sanita, Ful. Stern, A. S. Boucher, Foh. Becker, R. Dolge, Mrs. Monteith, Mr. Hillier, Mrs. Henderson, Misses E. and M. Jensen, Family Law, Mr. W. H. Res, Miss Joyce, Mrs. A. G. Elder, Messrs. F. B. Grant, F. Anderson, Miss K. Spink, Mr. M. Smith, Dr. and Miss Graham; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. P. Calender, Mr. v. Alemann, Mr. and Mrs. L. Marcks,

Messrs. Troise, F. Harmson, H. Muller, Fr. Bohm, P. Dreyer, Mr. and Mrs. L. Basse, and Miss Fr. Kloock; from Naples, Messrs. Ful. Fubert and A. Troise; from Penang, Mr. P. Michant and Mrs. S. Blum; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Sieben, Mrs. C. Seeker, Mr. M. Grun, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fix, and Mr. Salt; for Nagasaki, from Genoa, Messrs. Alex. Gargarina P. Dreyer, M. Kulihara, Mrs. Wasi, and Messrs. Sumi and Okiku; from Singapore, Mrs. Otome Sang, Messrs. Otuck Sang, M. Ohama, O. Nanie San and Fshida; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr. Suruki; for Yokohama, from Bremen, Mr. Carl Kohler; from Antwerp, Mr. Hoffmann; from Southampton, Miss M. Saville; from Genoa, Messrs. Franqui Ad. May, P. Kleynan, R. Diederichs, and Fr. Kyll; from Naples, Mr. and Miss S. H. K. Davis; from Colombo, Mr. G. N. Brown, Mrs. C. P. Halkie, and Mrs. Emil Veers; from Penang, Messrs. C. B. Curtis and A. R. Milton; from Singapore, Mr. F. F. Cremers.

DEPARTED.

Per *Nippon Maru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. M. Watson, H. Kaeger, V. Hartlieb, J. L. Upham, C. G. Rawlings, J. B. Silva, Baron Ritter, T. Kobazashi, Mr. and Mrs. O. Michael, Mr. C. Simpson, Mrs. A. S. Ellan, Messrs. Wm. Sieder, Drivend and Latour; for Yokohama, Lieut. Howard Gage, U.S.N., Mr. A. M. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Stevens, and Mr. E. Hamilton Sharp; for Honolulu, Mr. D. Wills; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Conger, Miss Conger, Miss Peirce, Messrs. John Harvey, A. Sney, J. E. Fautz, J. J. Niblock, Rear-Admiral and Mrs. L. A. Beardslee, U.S.N., Mr. J. Magelamis, Dr. and Mrs. B. F. West and infant, Miss Ruth West, Miss Irene West, Miss Mary West, Miss Mark, Miss Mildred and Mr. Frank Divine; for Tacoma, Messrs. W. T. Read, B. N. Stevens, E. P. Ward, and J. T. Barker; for Chicago, Mr. L. P. H. Fisher; for Victoria, Mr. Albert I. White; for New York, Mr. A. Gilka Batzane; for Milwaukee, Miss Rose Blanchard; for London, Messrs. H. N. Ridley and T. Paul; for Paris, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Korthals Atlas; for Rotterdam, Mr. H. Schillemans; for Amsterdam or Rotterdam, Dr. J. Harte von Knyff.

Per *Awa Maru*, for Japan, Miss Woodford, Messrs. M. Yoshida, O. Kamato, B. Katsura, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Ancock, Mr. and Mrs. D. Halt, Comdr. S. Fuchi, Messrs. H. Nakaya, H. Oiwa, H. Yoshida, Milford Beck, H. Hamashima, S. Yamamoto, I. Shimura, S. Yasuoka and C. Schmassen.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, for Manila, &c., Messrs. J. von Waldtnausen, Robert Hood, Mrs. Dymond and four children, Messrs. Louis Morris, Wm. Reed, O. Anderson, John Sale, H. Kruseman, Lieut.-Col. J. S. Mallory, Messrs. H. K. Belden, Wm. U. Zinn, Mrs. Chas. Fressel, Miss Roza Daniel, Mrs. J. S. Herzig, Messrs. A. Aenle, A. S. Ellem, Mrs. F. Rivero, Messrs. C. B. Rusby, L. Wirt, F. Fuset, T. Manuel, W. A. Fitton, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Heacock, Messrs. J. W. Borry, F. C. Havemeyer, Paul Segal, Mr. and Mrs. M. Morita, Messrs. Morio Hyodo, T. Hyodo, T. Tanaka, S. Tanaka, Mrs. C. Matsufugi, Mrs. F. Kuwai, Mr. S. Harada, Miss C. Cruz, Messrs. Leon de Reyes, J. Bowan and H. Fell.

Per *Plassy*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. L. E. Clarke, R.N., Mrs. Kloss, Messrs. N. Lazarus, A. F. Comrie, Dr. F. H. Rovers and H. P. Umben; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Wells; for Colombo, Mr. H. Z. Darrah and Lieut. Forsyth, R.N.; for Marseilles, Messrs. J. Vernon, H. Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. Bisney and three Misses Bisney, Mr. G. E. A. Cadell and Mrs. Bosman and infant; for London, Messrs. Wm. Phillips, R.N., H. C. Nicolle, Hon. and Mrs. Goodman and family, Miss Barker, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Wright and infant, Inspector and Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Archie Kerr, Mr. Mrs. and Master Lachlan Kerr, Miss Stewart, Mrs. N. G. Major and infant, Lieut. Webb, R.A., Comdr. J. F. Murray Aynsley, R.N., Sub-Lieut. W. B. C. Jones, R.N.; Sergt. and Mrs. Boulet and family; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Lieut. and Comdr. A. H. Oldham, R.N.; for Marseilles, Messrs. C. W. Gordon and J. T. Smith; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Bazier and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Burkhill and infant, Mrs. E. G. Lowder and children, Miss Macdonald, Mrs. C. C. Clarke, Mr. W. C. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Wingrove and daughter, Mrs.

F. H. Armstrong and infant, Messrs. W. W. G. Ross, D. F. Black, Miss Black, Mrs. Eds and children, Messrs. J. K. Tweed, H. Stell, E. A. Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. Howell and son, Mr. W. Macdonald, Capt. G. M. Henderson, R.N., Lieut. Jellicoe, R.N., Messrs. A. Cairncross, J. Batty, W. Reid Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Birrell and children, Mrs. J. Wilson and daughter, Miss M. Chick, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hope Gill and family, Misses R. Angwin and Amy Cooper; from Yokohama, for London, Messrs. J. W. S. Laird, E. C. M. Davis and A. B. Macdonald.

Per *Sobraon*, from Bombay, for Shanghai, Mr. A. H. Porter, Lieut. J. R. Bell and Capt. Bishop; from Singapore, Messrs. O'Connor, A. Hodge and L. D. Hilles; from London, Mr. A. Sinclair; from Calcutta, Count de Boury de Boyers, Countess de Boury de Boyers and Mr. Heath; from Marseilles, Mrs. Morris and infant, Mrs. Watson and Mr. H. Edgar; from Ismailia, Miss Holden; from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. G. Harling, Capt. W. Menzell and Messrs. Geo. Ross, George Stephen, D. Wells, M. P. Baird, H. F. Oslander, W. A. Peairs, A. Oliver, F. J. Dymond and Morris.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Messrs. S. Heymann, J. P. Siguenza, J. M. S. Lop z, Mr. and Mrs. Loyzaga and family, A. R. Thistlethwaite and servant, Dr. B. Altmann, and Mr. H. Manning.

Per *Stuttgart*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. J. J. Francois, K.C., W. J. Chamberlain, Werther, Buchwaldy, and Mrs. Pastowsky; for Penang, Mr. F. O. Halifax; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Hawthorne and Capt. Clausen; for London, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yale, Messrs. J. Potts and E. Feirare; for Bremen, Mr. P. Stoppa.

Per *Empress of China*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. G. K. Hollister, W. H. Carroll, Mr. and Mrs. McCarthy and infant, Mr. E. J. Bates, Lieut.-Com T. F. Burgdorff, Mr. F. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Robertson, Messrs. C. P. Robinson, W. H. Wilson, H. Emanell, and G. L. P. Stone; for Nagasaki, Messrs. T. B. Clark Thornhill, Charles McCune, M. Mess, H. Murphy, D. le Run, R. Osborne, W. J. Perry, and D. E. Metcalfe; for Kobe, Mr. C. E. Blair, Mrs. Bessie and Miss Lulu McGoodwin, H.E. Bottlewally, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dickson and child, Mrs. Wilkes, Miss Nielsen, Miss Thompson, Mr. E. Cohnitz, Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, and Mr. D. Ludzaki; for Yokohama, Mr. S. Guha, Mrs. Geo. Zinn, Messrs. H. E. A. and E. H. Child, H. and W. L. Hildrup, T. M. Arnould, F. Salinger, Rev. L. M. Haslope, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Creasey, Messrs. J. T. Plummer, W. A. Kitto, F. M. Brown, Dr. G. Hoze, Mr. R. M. Stirling, Capt. Bishop, Capt. L. R. G. Bell and Mr. W. S. Allen; for San Francisco, Miss E. Gordon, Miss M. A. Lawrence, Mrs. A. B. Caldwell and two children, Messrs. M. Perez, A. H. Stiebitz, G. C. Vanderkief, H. Hering, and W. A. Wrigley; for London, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock, Mr. F. F. Ridolet, Mr. and Mrs. G. Murray Bain, Miss Murray Bain, Mr. A. Oliver, Capt. O. S. Flower, Mr. and Mr. J. B. Bilderbeck, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Hebblethwaite, Capt. and Mrs. Usborne, Mr. and Mrs. P. Harrison, Mr. A. A. Cunningham, Rev. P. Armitage, Mr. S. F. Marshall, Dr. E. R. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Beriney, Mr. S. T. Cohn, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Thorley, Mrs. Besch, Messrs. G. and H. Besch, Capt. P. M. Candlish, Lieut. B. A. Harvey, Mrs. Constable, Mr. and Mrs. G. Kellner, Dr. J. Maye, Comdr. and Mrs. P. Walter, Miss Hartland, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Anger, Capt. C. A. Callagan, and Capt. A. P. Browne; for Vancouver, Mr. and Miss Haselton and Mr. T. Smith; for Paris, Mr. and Mrs. E. Meyer, Comte and Contesse du Bourges; for New York, Comte and Contesse, Mr. S. W. Cartwright; for Quebec, Major Boulanger; from Shanghai, for Toronto, Mr. John Cowdry; for Montreal, Mr. A. Hedge; from Yokohama, for London, Messrs. E. M. Crosse, J. Ebbetts, H. H. Chipman, Rev. C. H. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. R. Ebbetts, and Miss Campbell; for New York, Mr. F. F. Proudftt; for Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Hopkins and Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Young.

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